

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, NOV. 30, 1951

Well Paid For What They Do

It is to be hoped that all our representatives at Ottawa will support Mr. McLure's protests with regard to the rulings given by the Board of Transport Commissioners on matters involving the transportation rights of this Province.

Owing to the retirement of Chief Commissioner Archibald, of Halifax, the Maritime Provinces now have no representative on this Board, which is another matter of complaint.

Meanwhile it is proposed to increase the salaries of Board members without consideration of personnel. The Turgeon Royal Commission on Transportation had recommended a strengthening of the Board.

Strange Case Of India's Wheat

External Affairs officials in Ottawa's East Block were somewhat embarrassed a few months ago when the Government of India declined to accept the offer of several million dollars worth of low-grade wheat as Canada's first installment of her obligations to east and southeast Asia under the Colombo Plan.

The puzzling thing about the Canadian gift to India is that the wheat will not be used, as most supporters of the Colombo Plan imagined, to feed the starving masses of that populous sub-continent and thus ward off the menace of Communism.

Democratic Students

In Scotland the occupant of the highest office in the University, Lord Rector, is chosen democratically by the students themselves in a secret ballot. This last month both Edinburgh and Aberdeen chose their Lord Rectors, but with a surprisingly small vote of electors.

According to "The Scotsman", Sir Alexander Fleming, who discovered penicillin, has been elected Lord Rector of Edinburgh University in succession to Mr. Alastair Sim, LL.D.

The new Lord Rector had a majority of 436 over his nearest opponent, the Aga Khan.

The results were:—Sir Alexander Fleming 1096, The Aga Khan 660, Mr. John Cameron, K.C., 373, Mr. Evelyn Waugh 237, Mr. Sidney Goodsir Smith 227, Sir Andrew Murray 170, Mr. Stephen Potter 124, and Mr. Jimmy Logan 70.

Only 57.9 per cent of the electorate voted.

The Lord Rectorship of Edinburgh University is the highest Scottish honour which has been bestowed on Sir Alexander Fleming.

His work has been well recognized in the world of medicine, both in Scotland and abroad, but apart from being made the first Freeman of his native Darvel in 1946, Sir Alexander had not received a major honour from his own country.

Mr. James Keith O'Neill Edwards—

"Professor" Jimmy Edwards, the radio and stage comedian—has been elected Rector of Aberdeen University. He polled 430 votes. Lord Lovat was second with 370 votes, and the two other candidates, Captain A. A. C. Farquharson, Laird of Invercauld, and Mr. Paul Robeson, the American Negro singer, each had 104. There was a 54.2 per cent poll.

Mr. Edwards, who succeeds Lord Tweedsmuir, graduated M.A. at Cambridge. During the war he served in the R.A.F. and won the D.F.C. He spends his spare time farming at Fletching, Sussex.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill is seventy-seven today, and as active in mind and body as an average man half his years. He will be wished many happy returns by admirers all the world over.

Statistics now available show a considerable falling off in the sale and use of cigarettes, due largely to recent and successive boosts in the taxes, but at least for the present session of Parliament prospects for relief are dim.

Mark Lemon, British author, was born this date 1809. He wrote many novels, farces and melodramas and contributed to periodicals but is best known as one of the founders of "Punch", over the destinies of which he presided most admirably until his death.

An Ontario farmer who stepped on a skunk saved himself from needing deodorizing by picking the animal up by the tail. This evidence of the truth of a common saying is of more academic than practical interest because very few would attempt to get close enough to take advantage of the technique.

Woolworth millions dwindle. Taxes and depreciation in five years have pared almost \$14,000,000 from the estate of the late five-and-ten magnate, Charles S. Woolworth, a court audit revealed. The audit shows Federal inheritance taxes on the \$16,417,594 estate of more than \$8,000,000, with Pennsylvania State's share adding \$1,774,774. Depreciation leaves the \$14,000,000 estate worth \$2,513,864.

The picture of the Royal sapphire fox fur cape presented by Premier Jones to the Princess Elizabeth has been widely published across Canada and in the United States. Interest in it has accompanied the Princess to the Old Country, and the London Daily Mirror features it in its weekly pictorial section, with the caption: "Prince Edward Island is famous for silver foxes. Now there is fresh fame to be made from 'Sapphires'."

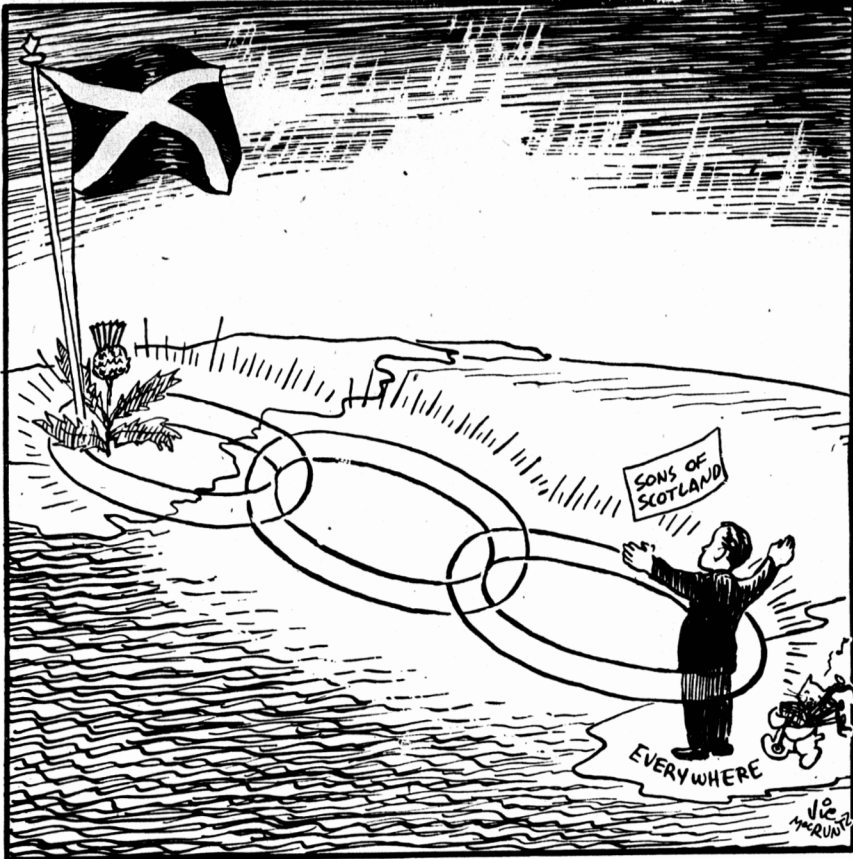
Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout of the Commonwealth, is to visit the first Caribbean Jamboree in Jamaica from March 5-17, 1952. A small party of King's Scouts, drawn from all parts of the United Kingdom, will go, and scouts from Canada, the U. S. A., Mexico, the Republics of Central and South America, Cuba, Haiti, and all the West Indian Islands will be there. To mark the occasion the Government of Jamaica is to issue special 2d. and 6d. stamps.

The United States government has classed newsprint production as a defence industry, eligible for the official "certificate of necessity". This means practical advantages in writing off capital for tax purposes but it is not expected that the resulting expansion will have any marked effect on the supply situation. So far as wood from Canadian sources is used it merely means a proportionate reduction in supplies from this country.

A statement which has been described as the most important in the history of South Africa's campaign against Tuberculosis came during the month from the Minister of Health, Dr. K. Bremer. He announced that he had recommended Government support for a plan to build a network of 40 tuberculosis settlements which would house 8,000 patients and 12,000 members of contact families. Loans from the Housing Commission of \$2,200,000 at 3/4 per cent are proposed, and it is believed that eventually the expenditure on the scheme will be \$3,000,000.

Are blood clinics to be superseded? A dextran (artificial blood) factory is now in operation in South Africa. It is one of only four such factories in the world, the other three being in Great Britain, Sweden and the United States. The blood plasma substitute, discovered by Britain and Sweden at the end of the last war, is obtained from cane sugar by a process of fermentation. Already many thousand transfusions of dextran have proved effective, especially in cases of shock; and in times of peace and war it seems that this discovery will be of the greatest significance.

When The Links Shine Brightly



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.

THE ROYAL BANQUET

Sir, — Re Anglican clergy's letter. Even from this distance, one can readily see that their letter referred to a point of courtesy, not a Mr. Jones interpreted it, a point of privilege. This common courtesy seems to have been recognized in other Provinces during the Royal tour.

I am, Sir, etc., (Rev.) S. J. ARMSTRONG Dayspring, N.S.

Sir, — The omission in inviting a representative of the Anglican Church to the Royal banquet is important, but not so compared with the drinking of the toast to the Royal couple in intoxicating liquor, contrary to the more civilized way it was done in Ottawa, thus setting a foolish example to the young people of this Province. The mother who receives her son home at one o'clock in the morning, too drunk to find his own bedroom door, does not laugh as did the banquet guests at the Prince's joke. Mothers don't laugh at drinking jokes.

I am, Sir, etc., (Rev.) W. I. GREEN Stanley Bridge, P. E. I.

CONTRAST IN VALUES

Sir, — In your news columns the other day there was a story from Ottawa headed "Value of Factory Products Higher". Intimating the basically progressive fact that, according to the Bureau of Statistics report estimated gross factory value of products manufactured in Canada during 1950 reached a peak of \$13,781,220,000.

The above is a massive sum (even in terms of today's rather anaemic dollar) and is a little difficult for this average mind to measure. Nevertheless it looks smart, and the only bit of comment which occurs to me, at the moment, is to suggest that it would be desirable to learn just what portion of the cost of raw materials—recorded as amounting to \$7,610,599,000—came from the farms? Only last week one of the financial journals (Monetary Times) pointed to the fact that "29 per cent of Canada's industrial plants are dependent upon agriculture for their raw materials."

However, I feel that there are interesting undertones to the following features of the above news story, when brought into the same column with the contrasting data covering the activities on the nation's 710,000 farms: "Number of employees increased to an estimated 1,186,200 for 1950, with salary and wage payments of \$2,792,238,000."—(C.P.)

I feel it is valid to compare the above totals with the fact that there are an estimated 1,065,000 men gainfully employed on the farms—forgetting, for the moment, that there are about 800,000 rural women actively at work on these same farms—and that the net income of the farmers, in 1950, was \$1,460,000,000. Yes, I'd like to see an expert interpretation of this contrast.

I am, Sir, etc., REALIST.

The Age-Old Story

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

Notes By The Way

The Ottawa Journal proffers the sensible warning to elderly gentlemen to stay away from the snow shovel. In other words, let George do it. Quite so, and in these times men and women in middle age are well advised not to run up stairs, or try to chase and catch up to the bus or streetcar. — (St. Catharines Standard).

First aiders always had our admiration anyway but we find added pleasure in the competent nurse at the British Festival park who was confronted by a man reading a cow who said the animal had toothache and could it have first aid, please. The nurse supervised the rubbing on of a soothing salve and remarked, as the face of the cow relaxed, that she liked to see all patients. — (Ottawa Journal).

An obscure group of idealists contends that there is an astonishing amount of satisfaction to be obtained from trying as hard as one can to do things well. The general theory of the efficacy of effort as a way to satisfaction is not being tested very hard nowadays and is rebuffed. The rule has become that parts of five days shall thou labor and do some of thy work, getting off as early Friday afternoon as thou canst and staying off an extra day if the regular day off falleth on a national holiday. — (The Printed Word).

We are back in a period when magistrates in light of their experience suggest the number of cases in which corporal punishment could be applied should be increased. Their case will have much support, especially when hardened, cruel and ruthless criminals are being punished. At the same time there is no wish to return to the 18th Century methods which saw minor criminals broken by the lash. — (Ottawa Journal).

The Royal visit leaves us with the uplifting sensation that Canadian band music has picked up its heels and become more cheerful than of old. "O Canada", we suggest respectfully, can be a delightful tune if played to keep time with the slow singers who roll the words on their tongues; given the vigor and quicker tempo of a good band it becomes a hymn of joy and confidence and that is how it sounded at many of the Royal occasions across the country. The orchestras which took over at indoor occasions also deserve praise. Their selections, often heard as background music by a national audience, were presented with youthful tunefulness that befitted the event. — (Ottawa Journal).

Smoking in bed, says James H. Fitzgerald, chief fire prevention officer for London, is the number one cause of fire, and 70 per cent of all fires start in the home. Mr. Fitzgerald says that if a man has to smoke in bed he ought to move his bed under a tent set up in the middle of a field. This is drastic treatment but if the majority of fires are set in this way it is logical. Smoking in bed is not new, Mark Twain did it for years and was never incinerated. Churchill was never incinerated. Churchill dangles it in seeming safety. The fall asleep. Most people, however, should go to bed tobaccoless. They have all day to smoke in the office. Besides the cost is rising both for tobacco and for mattresses. — London Free Press.

The Poet's Corner

WEEP NOT TODAY

Weep not today, why should this sadness be? Learn in present fears To o'ermaster those tears That unhindered conquer thee.

Think on thy past valour, thy future praise; Up, sad heart, nor faint In ungracious complaint Or a prayer for better days.

Daily thy life shortens, thy grave's dark peace Draweth surely nigh, When good-night is good-bye. For the sleeping shall not cease.

Fight, to be found fighting; not far away Deem not strange thy doom; Like this sorrow, 'twill come. And the day will be today. — Robert Bridges.

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Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Two (continued) (All Rights Reserved)

FARMING FUNDAMENTALS

Many claim that people on the Island have plenty of money, as evidenced from their dress, the cars they drive, etc. We may ask: are farmers not supposed to dress as well as other people? How else can they move about today? It is cheaper and much safer to drive a car than a horse and wagon. Many of our Island farmers have small trucks instead of passenger cars. Local bank managers confirm our belief that even today only a very small percentage of the farmers in this Province completely own their automobiles and machinery used on their farms. They say that "The machine companies own more of our Island farms than the farmers". This may not be wholly a true statement, but the trend is definitely in this direction.

It is not unreasonable to suggest that if our farms continue to be deserted they will soon be bought up by large food processing companies and corporations and we will have to return to the landlord system, with all its inevitable consequences; we will become mere serfs to those companies and our blessings of private homesteads, self-employment and independence will be forfeited. This trend has already started in eastern Canada and if it continues, large companies will have total control of food products right from the field to the consumers' counter. Consumers generally must soon learn to take more interest in the problems of more efficient food production and distribution.

Some economists suggest that "There are too many small farmers in eastern Canada; that we might as well admit the day of the family farm is past." We must admit that there is a great deal of inefficiency in our present farming system. The tremendous overhead costs of expensive machinery and interest is not economical. There are many small farms valued at \$5,000 to \$8,000 on which there is also \$5,000 worth of power machinery. A great deal of this machinery is used only for one or two weeks or less out of the year and is not properly cared for when it is not in use. But our young people feel that they must have this machinery; on the farm they are entitled to all the conveniences of shop and home that they can have when working in industry. However, if we take the lowest depreciation—10%—on this machinery it amounts to \$500 per year; moreover, there is interest on investment, gasoline, repairs, etc., to add to the real cost.

This is the type of farming establishment that the present Canadian Veterans' Land Policy promotes and supports; veterans are encouraged to set up without any money without working capital, and without security to obtain further credit. They are expected to drudge along with a team of horses and some primitive equipment in the remote farming areas. Both our local and national V.L.A. officials are quite anxious to tell how many veterans have been established under this scheme but it has been impossible to find out the actual number or percentage who have remained on these farms and are satisfied with the arrangement.

We all agree that there is a great deal of virtue in the family-sized farm; in fact, many people have cited it as the backbone of our democracy. The family unit and the right of personal ownership form the foundation of our whole social order. Now, if we are to maintain those fundamentals, and yet improve our system of operations, is there not some workable compromise? Yes; in fact there are three alternatives, all of which are working successfully in the world today. The first method is the cooperative or company farm, with a division of labour that will permit specialization and scientific production. It also provides for all the modern conveniences, security policies, hours of work and amenities of life available in other industries. The members use their own homes and plots of land as individuals but they conduct business cooperatively. Salaries are paid regularly.

Recommended Reading Baker, O. G.: Agriculture and Modern Life. Chesterton, G. K.: Outline of Sanity. Fryer, Lee: The American Farmer; His Problems and Prospects.

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