

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, AUG. 6, 1951

The Teachers' Convention

Judged by any standard, the Canadian Teachers' Federation is one of the most vital organizations in the country. Its members represent the teaching profession from coast to coast, and it is concerned not only with their welfare individually and as a body, but with improving educational conditions and methods from the smallest rural school to the biggest college and university.

Visiting delegates to this week's convention in Charlottetown may be interested in learning of the early lead which Prince Edward Island took in the matter of free education. This reform was introduced in 1852, based on a system then in force in Ohio, but it differed in its application to any Canadian or American system.

Though handicapped financially, we have endeavoured to keep abreast of educational improvements since that time. Until Federal responsibility for aiding the Provinces in maintaining a minimum standard in teachers' salaries and other requirements is recognized, however, this problem will always be difficult of solution.

All our citizens will follow the sessions of this week's Federation convention with interest, and will join in welcoming the delegates most heartily to Canada's Garden Province.

What About The Four-Power Talks?

It is several weeks since the Four-Power Talks of the Deputy Foreign Ministers in Paris were suspended. Notwithstanding the fact that a conference of the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, France, the United States and the Soviet Union have not yet materialized, it would be erroneous to conclude, as is suggested in some circles, that the Paris Talks were an utter waste of time.

Thoughtful observers of the international scene, must, therefore, be pondering the Paris deliberations with a view to determining the usefulness of so protracted and seemingly complex a series of negotiations. Those who do so will discover that the results are not entirely negative.

In the first place, the Deputy Foreign Ministers' meetings achieved a basis of agreement upon which a full-dress Foreign Ministers' conference, if called, could discuss all the more important issues relating to the present disturbed situation in Europe.

In the second place, the Paris Talks have served the invaluable purpose of making it clear to the Soviet Union that the western Powers cannot be diverted from their policies for collective self-defence through the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

So long as the present regime holds the reins of power in the Soviet Union, diplomatic negotiations of any sort must obviously take place at arms length. This factor does not preclude, however, the possibility that the headlong race towards World War III may be diverted into something resembling an armed truce.

ability that the headlong race towards World War III may be diverted into something resembling an armed truce. This, in itself, would be a substantial step forward, and would afford the Russians opportunity to reflect upon the consequences not only for the rest of the world, but for themselves, of a resort to open war.

Oddfellows In Session

The Oddfellows' convention in Charlottetown this week is a reminder of the many and beneficial activities which the Order carries on. Functioning through one Sovereign Grand Lodge under 112 Grand Lodges with 56 Rebekah Assemblies, 8,965 subordinate lodges, 2,119 Encampments and other organizations, and with a total membership of 1,491,860, the I.O.O.F. last year collected a total revenue of some \$18,878,436, and has over sixty million dollars in invested funds in addition to several millions set aside for the erection and maintenance of homes for members and their dependents in need of assistance.

In the Maritime Provinces, \$163,954 is invested in funds while the assets total \$598,906. The Home at Pictou is considered one of the best institutions of its kind anywhere. In furthering this and other activities of the order, Prince Edward Island is represented by five subordinate and four Rebekah lodges, and one Encampment, all active and looking forward to a period of still further progress and prosperity. The agenda prepared for this week's annual sessions is a crowded one, but it is to be hoped that ample time will be afforded the visiting delegates of seeing and enjoying our summer attractions to the full.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Whatever else is to be controlled a beginning is being made with farm produce by Government importation of butter, and the compulsory fixing of its retail sale price.

Delegates to the meeting of the Canadian Teachers Federation here have a heavy programme before them but Prince Edward Island all around them. To do justice to both work and play, however, is a familiar problem facing the profession.

Next month Canada will be host to Atlantic Pact foreign and defence ministers. It is striking, how easy it is to make up an agenda when a spirit of co-operation exists, even though there may be widely differing opinions.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, English poet, was born this date 1809. He became poet-laureate in 1850 and a peer in 1884. His works include "In Memoriam", "Idylls of the King", "Enoch Arden" and "Harold". His brother Frederick worked with him on a number of poems as well as independently.

The dairy industry has been repeatedly accused of being a monopoly, but the action of the National Dairy Council of Canada in urging the Government to import the butter necessary to see this country through the period of scarcity does not appear to be that of any known brand of monopolist.

It seems considerable delay will be experienced in settling the Mayoralty problem, the Supreme Court being on holiday till 31st inst.; and then after that there will be important detailed procedure to be followed before a trial and decision are reached.

There will be quite a lot of outside work available at Charlottetown Airport and Ordinance Compound in connection with the contracts obtained by the County Construction Co. Ltd. It is satisfactory to note that employment has been good this summer so far, though it is regretted so many had to be laid off by Bruce Stewart & Co. Ltd.

Sweden faces the difficult problem of whether to treat the crew of a Polish minesweeper as political refugees entitled to sanctuary or as mutineers liable to deportation. The fact that the men were induced by British and American broadcasts to take over the ship from their officers certainly seems to emphasize the political aspect of their conduct.

The King of Cambodia, a state in Indo-China, who has sent an elephant to President Truman, must have an unkindly sense of humour. Kansas City Zoo in requesting that the elephant should be sent there on arrival wrote Mr. Truman: "It could be an unpleasant task for you to show any affection for a Republican elephant; therefore since there are a few Republicans and many Democrats in Kansas City and since we are a suburb of Independence, it would not be a bad idea to present this elephant to the Kansas City Zoo."



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) EARLY HIGHWAY ACT

"The Act to regulate the laying out and altering of Highways, passed by the Legislature of this Colony in the year 1829, but which contained a clause suspending its operation until it received the Royal Assent, is now part of the law of the land, an Order in Council having been received, declaratory of its having received His Majesty's special approbation.

"No pains were spared by a few individuals in London, who happened to possess property in this Island, to prevent the wholesome machinery in motion; it was a dread of this that so completely blinded those most disinterested of all patriots, that they were unable to see that even what they had so much at heart, their own interest, would be advanced by the operation of the Act in question. The object of the Act is to give the Government the power of laying out and opening new roads, which are the veins and arteries of a new country like this."

The Peace Treaty (By W. N. Ewer)

The draft treaty which is now being circulated for comment to countries which took an active part in the war against Japan is the outcome of much thought and long discussion between the U.S.A., the U.K. and the other states of the British Commonwealth. In fact, the work in one sense was begun two and a half years ago when Commonwealth Ministers at the Canberra Conference declared that the making of an early treaty of peace with Japan was desirable.

What was then clearly desirable has not become imperatively necessary — this both on the grounds of justice and of wisdom. It would be unjust to refuse Japan the ending of the occupation regime, not because of any fault of her own, or of any failing to carry out her obligations, but simply because of disagreements between the Allies themselves. And it would be unwise to arouse the sentiments of frustration which would be the natural and inevitable consequence of such refusal.

Therefore, however regretfully, it is felt that the prospect of treaty making must be completed and the treaty signed even if the Soviet Union declines to participate. If the choice is between a treaty without Russia and no treaty at all — and that unfortunately seems practically certain — then there can be no hesitation. The concept of a Soviet veto cannot be accepted in this field as well as in others.

The chief criticism of the draft itself which seems likely to come from other than Communist quarters is that of undue leniency. It is not proposed to require Japan to accept restrictions or limitations on the size or strength of her armed forces. It is not proposed to place any restrictions on her industrial or economic capacity. She is to retain her entire sovereign freedom as soon as the treaty comes into force. Nor is she to be required to pay heavily for the damage and destruction occasioned by her aggression. Definitely this will be what during the early stage of the discussions used to be referred to as a "soft" peace, as contrasted with a "hard" peace. And that will give rise to a certain amount of apprehension, to the fear that we may be rashly making possible a rapid resurgence of Japanese military power and of Japanese aggressive ambitions.

The point was naturally not overlooked. It has been very fully considered and very fully

Come One, Come All!

A HEARTY WELCOME

OLD FINE WEEK, EARLY ARRIVALS, I.O.O.F. and REBECCAS, CANADIAN TEACHERS FEDERATION, CHARLOTTETOWN, The more, the merrier!

The Age-Old Story

The Lord reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength wherewith he hath girded himself; the world also is established, that it cannot be moved. Thy thron is established of old; thou art from everlasting. The floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves. The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea. Thy testimonies are very sure; holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, for ever.

discussed. And the reasoning which finally turned the balance in favour of the concept of a soft peace seems to be entirely convincing. It is simply this: that we have learned from the experience of the last thirty years that the conditions imposed on a defeated enemy, either as penalties for the past or as safeguards for the future, are of little value, not because they are necessarily either wrong or undesirable in themselves but simply because it is in practice impossible to enforce them.

Once direct control over the Government of an ex-enemy state is relinquished — and it cannot in the nature of things be continued indefinitely — there is no means of enforcement available except the resumption of war. After Versailles, Germany proceeded first covertly then openly to violate the military clauses of the Treaty. And there was nothing the Allies could do about it unless they were prepared to invade Germany again and resume their armed occupation. It may be argued that they would have been wise to do so. But the plain fact is that nobody was prepared or willing to do so.

The lesson has been repeated in the last few years. The military clauses of the 1946 peace treaties with the Balkan states are already being openly violated. And there is nothing short of starting a new war that can be done about it except to make futile and therefore humiliating protests.

Is it not likely that the same would happen in the case of Japan if she were compelled, sullenly and unwillingly, to accept limitations on her armed forces and on her industrial potential, or if she were required to pay reparations which in fact she neither could nor would pay? Suppose such clauses were written into the treaty and accepted under duress. Suppose that in five years' time Japan were to begin to violate them. Would either the U.S.A. or any other power be ready to undertake a new invasion and a new occupation in order to enforce them? And then? The repetition of the same process all over again?

In hard fact the choice must in the long run be between com-

The Poet's Corner

FROM "SUSSEX" I never get between the pines But I smell the Sussex air; Nor I never come on a belt of sand But my home is there. And along the sky the line of the Downs. So noble and so bare.

A lost thing I could never find. Nor a broken thing mend: And I fear I shall be all alone When I get towards the end. Who will there be to comfort me, Or who will be my friend?

I will gather and carefully make my friends Of the men of the Sussex Weald. They watch the stars from silent folds. They stifle plough the field. By them and the God of the South Country My poor soul shall be healed.

If I ever become a rich man, Or if ever I grow to be old, I will build a house with a deep thatch To shelter me from the cold. And there shall the Sussex songs be sung, And the story of Sussex told.

I will hold my house in a high wood. Within a walk of the sea. And the men that were boys when I was a boy Shall sit and drink with me.

plete freedom and complete and permanent control. No middle way, no mere paper fetters can hope to be effective. And indeed their existence, arousing, as it humankind must, irritation and resentment, may actually increase the dangers which they are intended to avert. The main result of the Versailles restrictions was to provide Hitler with his best ammunition. The case against a "hard" peace is in short that it would fail to achieve its purpose. It would not prevent and it might well even stimulate a renaissance of Japanese aggressive nationalism. It would not increase but would lessen the chances of the new Japan taking her place as a peaceful member of the free nations. It is a case which seems to me convincing.

SACKVILLE, N. B. (CP) — A bumper blueberry crop is predicted a result of abundant rains during in the Maritimes this summer, as the spring and early summer.

Notes By The Way

A writer maintains that "women have as much right as men to stand in street-cars." Well who said they hadn't? All we ask of them is that they keep their dainty French heels off our toes! — Ottawa Citizen. More on this side of the Atlantic than elsewhere in the world casual and knowing references are heard to "the typical Englishman." The remark may be applied to any one from Sir Alexander Clut-terbuck, High Commissioner from London, to a shopkeeper in Scarborough — proof enough that no one actually knows what the typical Englishman is like. Our own view is that he is Gog and Magog. For reasons best known to themselves, Londoners in the eleventh century erected two fourteen-foot high figures fashioned from rushes and coarse matting in the facade of the Guildhall and called them Gog and Magog. Every one adored them. But time and mice disintegrated the bodies until what looked like two pieces of wood were left. They were replaced by the great fire of 1668 destroyed them. In 1796 they were replaced by carved figures which survived until the blitz of the last war. Now the grotesque statues are to be refashioned in their original size. No one ever has said precisely what they are supposed to represent. But we think we know all Englishmen want them. They represent Cromwell, King John and naughty barons; Shakespeare, the universities, including Cardinal Newman; King Arthur and his round table knights; Winston Churchill and his wartime Cabinet; the Stowell family and Robin Hood, together with your own nominations, all rolled in two figures. The fierce Highland Chief and the peppy Gog and Magog are their historic names. Every visitor to any where on earth to London will be glad as Britons that the Guildhall will again house these curious symbols. — Montreal Star.

Angela Thirkell, the British novelist, entitled her recent book "Love Among the Ruins." Miss Thirkell thought she was using the title for the first time, but in fact it had been used several times before — by Robert Browning in 1865 by Warwick Deeping in 1906, by Victor Kitchin in 1906, and by E. M. Davis in 1936. A title that has been used five different times within a century is obviously a good one. But "Love Among the Ruins" is something better than good; it is universal. At any time, be it 1855 or 1966, there are ruins, — ruins of cities, empires, systems, ideologies. Man-made, they are bound to collapse. But among the ruins, there is love, which cannot be atomized or abolished, and which in time sweeps away the rubble, and builds new. There was a story in the papers the other day about an Englishwoman who smuggled herself into Korea, to see her soldier husband. The high brass was angry about it, but the ranks were not. They protected this fragile flowering of

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