

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1950

No Need To Be Caught Napping

Fact that the western democracies appear to have been caught off balance in Korea points to certain obvious steps that ought to be taken to offset the possibility of further and even more catastrophic diplomatic debacles. First of these is that if an official or agency or the Cominform accuses the West of aggression in a certain part of the globe, chances are that plans for a "civil war" to break out in that area are already well developed.

Second lesson that needs to be remembered is that propaganda used to build up public opinion in satellite countries is an important source of information as to Soviet intentions. In eastern Europe, for example, Soviet propaganda sources never seem to tire of talk about alleged Anglo-American plans to launch an atomic war. Yet in that same region little or no effort is made to encourage development of air raid precautions or civil defence. This points to the conclusion that trouble, if it comes in the form of a shooting war, will emerge elsewhere than on the Soviet Union's own frontiers.

Third lesson is the importance of having top flight observers, both for U. N. and for member states having a vital interest in the area, located in or near the perimeter of Soviet influence. In this sense, the United Nations Commission in Korea seems to have fallen down very badly on its job. Not so the United Nations Special Commission in the Balkans which, only recently, has drawn attention to the trend of Communist propaganda against Greece and Yugoslavia. Soviet propagandists in Rumania and Bulgaria are busy preparing the inhabitants of those countries for trouble with Greece and Yugoslavia by charging the existence of a Greek-Yugoslav "Axis" equipped with arms by the United States.

War And The Dollar Gap

Some people seem to imagine that the dollar gap between the North American continent and western Europe has evaporated overnight because of the Korean war. Such light-hearted optimism is scarcely justified by the facts.

True it is that United States spending for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of strategic raw materials such as rubber, tin and wool will temporarily ease the imbalance in trade between Europe and America, as well as between America and certain Far Eastern regions of the sterling bloc. Such purchases are necessary, both by Canada and the United States, to bring this continent's stockpiles up to levels adequate to meet the threat of global war.

Fact is, however, that the exigencies of the Korean episode provide only a more politically palatable alternative to the tapering off Marshall Plan, and by no means offer a permanent or lasting solution to the so-called dollar shortage which has plagued the western democracies since the end of World War II. The problem can never be satisfactorily solved until the western world realizes that economic curtains disguised as exchange control and other devices are just as damaging in the long run to international peace and prosperity as are the political barriers of the Soviet Union's "Iron Curtain."

Party Organization

The Ottawa Journal sees in the appointment of Mr. W. H. Kidd of Vancouver as national secretary of the Progressive Conservatives of Canada, evidence that the party constitutes "a lively and important factor in our public affairs despite their small representation in the House of Commons." Mr. Kidd's appointment, it notes, follows the election of Mr. George Nowlan, M.P., of Nova Scotia, as president of the national Progressive Conservative Association, and these two competent young men, one from the Pacific province and the other from the Atlantic, will give added weight and authority to party headquarters in Ottawa.

"We are too much inclined to measure the strength of the Progressive Conservative party by its group in Parliament, to overlook the plain fact that it represents the political hopes and ideals of some millions of Canadians—and that it offers the only alternative administration to that of Mr. St. Laurent," the Journal says. "As it is the essence of our democratic system that while one party is in office another should be in training for office, and our conviction and experience that even the best of governments is the better for a trained and com-

petent Opposition, obviously the steps being taken in the Conservative high command are of much concern to this country.

"That Conservative headquarters will be strengthened by the addition of Mr. Nowlan and Mr. Kidd, bringing to bear on policies and methods their own wide knowledge of Canada and its problems, we need entertain no doubts. These appointments mean that the party is thinking now, as it should be, of the next election—it realizes fully that an election cannot be won in the last hectic month. And if the party leaders give close study to the practices of the British Conservatives they will learn much about party organization which could well be adapted to this country."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Four more days till Old Home Week.

Governor-General Young (Lord Lisgar) arrived here this date 1869, to find the Island still anti-Confederation.

The country is looking beautiful notwithstanding the harvesting of hay and grain. The roads between the City and Tignish were never better, and the traffic over them is heavy.

Visitors to Tignish are favourably commenting on the new one storey home of Mr. Myrick, which covers a considerable area, having all the latest facilities of a city home—and no stairs to climb!

The imports merchants are bringing in these days will require a lot of storage and increased insurance. In dry goods the urge will be to get rid of current inventories so as not to be left behind in fashion's changes.

It is pleasant to attain the achievement of records. This Province is now the only completely dieselized C. N. R. division in Canada, and leads in the matter of diesel shop facilities.

The profit shown by Island Co-operative Services Ltd., for the first eleven months was actually over \$19,000, the \$7,000 mentioned in these columns yesterday being for the last five months' period only.

The earnest heads of the Department of Education have mapped out school terms which provide time for every requirement of the curriculum, but seem to have overlooked the fact that they are dealing with boys and girls who almost certainly want to participate in Old Home Week.

The falling off elsewhere of the Canadian tourist trade has not affected record crowds streaming to our National Park, and to Green Gables. Visitors are treated as friends from abroad, and seem to respond by returning again and again.

With but one private dealer to be on the five-member Potato Marketing Board it is little wonder that exporters are inclined to view its wide powers with some alarm. It should at least work in close consultation with a representative committee of those in the trade.

Two-door model cars are most popular with families of small children in spite of what are sometimes cramped quarters. If car manufacturers could contrive means of locking the back doors so as not to be opened from the inside it would make the four-door models equally safe for the family, and permit more room for those who need it.

The heavy traffic over the all too narrow Hillsborough Bridge demonstrates its unfortunate effectiveness as a bottleneck in this age of rapid transit. It will be one of the greatest advantages of the Trans-Canada Highway that by widening or replacement, that bottleneck must be removed.

Whatever methods of enlistment may be adopted in the three Armed Services, it should be possible to determine the response from this Province. In the past many of our young people have joined up without any proper acknowledgment being made that they were from the Island.

The appointment of Brigadier Rockingham to the command of the United Nations Special Canadian Brigade, will be highly commended by those who know his efficient service with the Australians in the last war. He is not merely a "brass hat", but a "brass hat" with brains and military initiative.

The committee investigating provincial-municipal relations in Saskatchewan has recommended that the provincial government give up the public revenue tax in favor of the municipalities, that it pay municipal taxes on crown corporations, and that it boost the gasoline tax by two cents a gallon, to permit a "more rapid implementation of the road program than would otherwise be possible."



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.

A WORSE NIGHTMARE

Sir,—With regard to the nightmare described by a correspondent in your issue of yesterday,—the bad dream goes on: "The factory whistle shrieks, while begrimed, sweating workers, tired-eyed and weary, sign off and pace out of the dismal gaping main-entrance to the heavy-casting shed. But do they necessarily go home to sleepfingers and peace-though some wives do their best with the aid of a few tinselled imitation flowers? Far too often it is to as dismal surroundings they go—dirty, ill-kempt rows of tenements, sometimes with scarcely space to breathe; the yards and lanes crowded, and youngsters everywhere sprawled, crying, talking, playing, screaming, fighting. No peace anywhere..."

Except, perhaps, were it possible to arrange to get a short two weeks on this delightful P. E. I. seashore to breathe in God's clean wholesome fresh air and to enjoy the healthful rays of a sun coming through skies clear of smoke or fumes. Comprehensive, organized tours for workers and their families have been arranged successfully elsewhere. Tours by which Montreal, Boston, New York and other big centres could be served should do it really spoil the Islanders' peace so much to know that their blessed country is shared with others perhaps at least as deserving — those myriad weary souls from the cities? I think not. It is a service the Island should be proud to provide, a service which should do her no financial harm, and tourism, I believe, could be her number one industry. This Island could be the Bermuda of the North—NOT for the bejeweled elite of New York's West End, but for the ordinary kind of folk from the city who would love to bring their children to romp on the sands at Dalway and elsewhere.

This Island need never deteriorate into a Coney Island playground, but it could expand its opportunities for tourism to a huge needy public here and in the U. S. A.—the honest working-men and their families without whose effort all would decay. I am, Sir, etc., K. I. E. MACLEOD 87 Prince Street, Charlottetown.

Life in the Northern counties proceeds at a much more leisurely tempo than in the South, and particularly than in London. People have time to stop and think, to consider well before taking action, but having decided on a course, that course is pursued until the objective is reached, despite any obstacles and in the face of any discouragement. Northerners seem, indeed, to thrive on adversity, for life has always been hard. There has been hard work and hard play always, for it has seemed that if a thing had to be done, it may as well be done to the best of human ability, with method and with pride.

But the leisurely tempo does not imply laziness. Rather does it typify the character of the people — a race who will not allow themselves to be flustered or stampeded into anything, who will, to the casual observer, seem slow; but who are quite oblivious to outside opinions and influences, preferring to make their own minds their own time.

Thriftiness comes naturally to them, another characteristic developed over generations when to be anything but thrifty was to court disaster, when it was ever necessary to count each penny lest there should not be enough pennies for life's essentials. But thriftiness has never been allowed to become meanness. For a good and deserving cause no doors are opened wider to a welcome visitor than Northern doors, and no people are more ready to lend a sympathetic ear to a tale of misfortune. Unless the misfortune be of one's own making, through carelessness, wastefulness or stupidity. The Northerner can be hard on a man who does not live up to his own standards.

If, however, there were no other differences between London, and the North, one thing would stand out like a marked frontier. Up here, everybody has a sociable word for the complete stranger as readily as for the old friend; there always seems to be a moment to spare for a politeness, never a hesitation about an opportunity for a kindness.

A bus conductor apologizes for having to give you a handful of coppers in your change because they weigh heavily; a storekeeper in a small town, though she has never seen you before, offers to lend you an umbrella when you get caught in a shower such things are commonplaces. In London they would be sensations. But in Hull, as in London, as in Birmingham and Liverpool, and as in other towns and cities up and down this island there are open spaces where once stood fine buildings, scars burned by bombs of World War II. There is the clue which, for all the superficial differences of geography, and for all the inborn differences of character, shows that nationally we act and think alike from coast to coast. Our individualities may make it seem we are something of a mixture, but as a nation we generally see things in the same light whatever part of the country we live in. END BIRMINGHAM, England, Aug. 10 — (Reuters) — About 700 men went on strike at an automotive plant here today because one man joined the Plymouth Brethren, a religious sect, and quit his trade union. The Plymouth Brethren do not allow members to belong to trade unions. A union official appealed to the men to return pending negotiations but they refused.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

HULL, England.—It makes a change to see, for the first time in some two-and-a-half years, these notes headed from somewhere other than London. It's an overdue change, for too often people in other lands who are not familiar with this island are apt to gain the impression that London is England, and England is London. Tell that to a man from Birmingham, or Liverpool, or the remotest village in the moorlands of Yorkshire, and like as not he'll either be downright offended or pity your ignorance. Mention London in any society more than, say, forty or fifty miles north of the capital and almost certainly some wag will ask you with a sly grin where—or what—is London, or enquire with bland and assumed innocence if that isn't "that little place down South?"

That the "little place down South", with its suburbs, is occupied by something like quarter of the population of all England is of no consequence at all to most of the other three-quarters. Indeed, instead of being a recommendation, that very fact may be construed as a sign of weakness, a confession that London has to be as big as that in order to make its presence felt. Hull is one of the great East coast ports and the maritime centre of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and here, no more than a couple of hundred miles from London, it is possible—may even imagine oneself in a different country. Sometimes even the local dialect helps the illusion, many words still in common use being almost exactly the same as were spoken by Norse invaders nearly a thousand years ago—a clue to the ancestry of so many East Yorkshire people.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

LAWYERS EXCLUDED

From the reports of the Legislative Assembly, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1852. The House in committee on the Small Debts Act: When the clause to exclude lawyers from pleading on behalf of litigants in the Small Debts Courts came under consideration, the Hon. Mr. Coles said that if such hon. members of the House as were also members of the legal profession, should think that the exclusion contemplated would amount to an undue limitation of their professional privileges, it was the proper time for them to show that it would be so. Mr. Palmer then rose and said, that he certainly was persuaded that many causes came before the Commissioners in Small Debts Courts, involving questions of law, which it could not be expected that they, as non-professional men, would be able to determine. Besides, he thought it scarcely fair that the litigants should be prevented from having legal assistance, if they were willing to engage it.

Hon. Mr. Pope observed that lawyers were very wisely excluded from intermeddling in such courts, with the petty affairs usually brought before them; in fact, were it otherwise, it would be derogatory to the profession and insulting to the Commissioners. If a Commissioner were to be badgered by one lawyer on his right, and another on his left, he would be completely bewildered, and rendered incapable of giving a reasonable and equitable judgment concerning the matter at issue. The Small Debts Courts were bad enough as they were; but should lawyers be allowed to plead before them, they would become a positive curse to the country.

Hon. Mr. Coles remarked, that if lawyers were admitted to plead in these courts, every litigant in them, who had ten shillings to spare, would spend them in feeling an attorney. If the Commissioners, however, should find any suit before them to be involved in legal ambiguities, they might be allowed to consult the Crown law officers on the subject. Mr. Thornton said he had himself applied for such advice on one occasion, and was told that he was not entitled to it, any more than any private individual, without a fee. The fact was, that when anyone appointed to a public office, entered thereon, it was taken for granted that he conceived himself duly qualified to discharge his duties, and the law made no provision for his assistance in case of incapacity. With respect to the evils which would arise from the admission of lawyers, as pleaders, in the Small Debts Courts, they had, in his neighborhood, sufficient evidence of them, in the persons of a few busybodies who, fancying themselves very learned in the law, frequently contrived to worm or intrude themselves into court, as witnesses or otherwise, greatly to the obstruction of business. If lawyers were permitted to plead, the Commissioners would be more at a loss how to decide than they were before; and the court instead of being able to get through their business in a day, would scarcely accomplish it in six.

The clause was then agreed to without amendment. monplaces. In London they would be sensations. But in Hull, as in London, as in Birmingham and Liverpool, and as in other towns and cities up and down this island there are open spaces where once stood fine buildings, scars burned by bombs of World War II. There is the clue which, for all the superficial differences of geography, and for all the inborn differences of character, shows that nationally we act and think alike from coast to coast. Our individualities may make it seem we are something of a mixture, but as a nation we generally see things in the same light whatever part of the country we live in. END

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Notes By The Way

The news pages get a trifle confusing these days, what with one Miss Canada skimming over the waters of Lake Muskoka at 140-miles an hour, and another Miss Canada about to be chosen in a beauty contest. — St. Catharines Standard.

Some time ago Princess Margaret paid a formal visit to Canterbury Cathedral. The Red Dean, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, is Dean of Canterbury and during the course of the visit the Archbishop of Canterbury presented him to Her Royal Highness. She courteously shook hands with him and photographers recorded the meeting. Not long afterwards Communists posted the photograph in Vienna with the explanation that it showed Princess Margaret shaking hands with the Red Dean after she had signed the Communist peace manifesto. — Montreal Daily Star.

A red-headed Irishman who likes roast beef must surely be a bit of a puzzle to Stalin. That is Sir David Kelly, British Ambassador to Moscow. But the superficial description of Ambassador Kelly is quite illusive. It hides the personality of one who is rightly accounted and already well tested, as one of the ablest diplomats in British service. His good-natured smile is reserved for his friends, to whose number he adds wherever he goes. A greying moustache is the only visible sign of his age; he was last year. His father, another David Kelly, was a don at Trinity College, Dublin. From that not too severely academic environment the son went via St. Paul's School to Magdalen College, Oxford, where he earned a first class in a diplomatic career, that for which was nominated by the first three years in this he served for three years in France as a brigade intelligence officer, was awarded the M.C. and recorded his experience in a book, "The Thirty-Nine Months," before entering the Foreign Office in 1924. — London Daily Mail.

Mothers the world over can sympathize with Mrs. Bebe Solar of Philadelphia. When her sons aged two and three shouted gleefully "Mother come and look at us", she found that they had amused themselves by painting each other green from head to foot. So when a policeman said, "Have you any other children?" she could be excused for snapping back at him, "Aren't these two enough? More than enough, we would say, because if she had only one he would not have thought up the idea of painting himself green. He couldn't have made much of a job of it if he had. We have met mothers of one child who think themselves almost harassed to death looking after it. They wear themselves out fussing, feeding, dressing and coaxing it from morning till night. If they get that way with one, what would they do with two? And do they ever give a thought to the mother of six to a dozen children who looks after them carefully and completely, and never seems to lose her calm? Compared with the mother of a single child she is one of the wonders of the world. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

It is too loosely said that our great Canadians lack color and incident which make rich biographies. American magazine editors for example, could never see in Mr. King enough lively stuff to make one of those jacked-up "profiles" which they are constantly building around lesser figures. That, of course, is a reflection on Mr. King who, in fact, was full of color and succeeded in hiding it so well. A man who builds an artificial stone ruin on his farm in his secret yearning for antiquity, who has stones from the bombed British House of Commons

GLASGOW, Aug. 10 — (Reuters) — A strike of 500 shipyard workers here today held up the construction of five ships on the River Clyde. The men stopped work claiming dismissal of two men earlier this week was unjustified.

THE HAGUE, Aug. 10 — (CP) — P. H. Van Bussel, a farmer, with his wife and 12 children, left by air today for Montreal to seek a new home in Canada. The Van Bussel family is the biggest ever to migrate from Holland.

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