

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, OCT. 11, 1951

Sales Tax Financing

Report now has it that the new old age pension plan—\$40 a month for everybody at 70 without a means test—will be financed, partly at any rate, by the existing 10 per cent sales tax.

A strong case can be made out that people should pay for old age pensions, and indeed for most forms of social security, through direct taxes, through earmarked direct taxes which would let them know at all times just what old age pensions and other social security meant to their incomes.

The second objection, the Journal argues, is equally relevant. The sales tax is an especially bad tax, seeing that it is a levy on consumption which is anything but equitable, and that it pyramids with high prices.

Price Fixing

The proposal, contained in the Speech from the Throne, to ban the practice whereby a manufacturer sets the retail price for his product is likely to be a hotly contested one.

In this country it is the price fixing that is regarded with suspicion, but not so long as competing manufacturers do not act in concert to keep that price unduly high.

High School Education

Of the 6,500,000 pupils now attending secondary schools in the United States, 20 per cent are enrolled in college-preparatory courses and another 20 per cent in vocational schools.

One of the most immediate needs in secondary education, the Commission finds, is to develop "life-adjustment education."

Organized education, it is emphasized, must provide youth with real opportunities for participation as active partners in community affairs.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Charlottetown welcomes the Atlantic Provinces Chartered Accountants and their guests at their Maritime conference.

More bicycles and at least a few wagons are carrying lights at night. The drivers have to go to a certain amount of trouble but the gain in safety is more than worth it.

The Order of the Bath was supposedly instituted this date 1399. It was "revived" by George I in 1725 and in 1815 enlarged and remodelled.

Progressively greater use of the motor industry's capacity for the production of vehicles for the Armed Forces, states Britain's Ministry of Supply, will be at the expense of production of civilian vehicles.

Parliament could with advantage take a leaf from NATO's book and provide members with simultaneous translation of speeches. Debate would be much more effective if members could listen to a French or English speech in the language with which each is most familiar.

It may be quite otherwise but the delay in reaching an agreement on a common minimum price for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island table stock potatoes could stem from recognition by New Brunswick growers that buyers should naturally expect to pay a premium for the Island product.

That was a most appropriate farewell Mayor B. Earle MacDonald took of his colleagues in the City Council Monday. The Mayor has always been "one of the boys" in addition to being an efficient and self-sacrificing Councillor, and Mayor for three terms.

The United Church is seeking to line up the rural communities behind the Church. That is where leadership most counts. A youth raised in the country with the influence of the Church upon him is likely, nine times out of ten, to be successful in anything he puts his mind and heart to in later life.

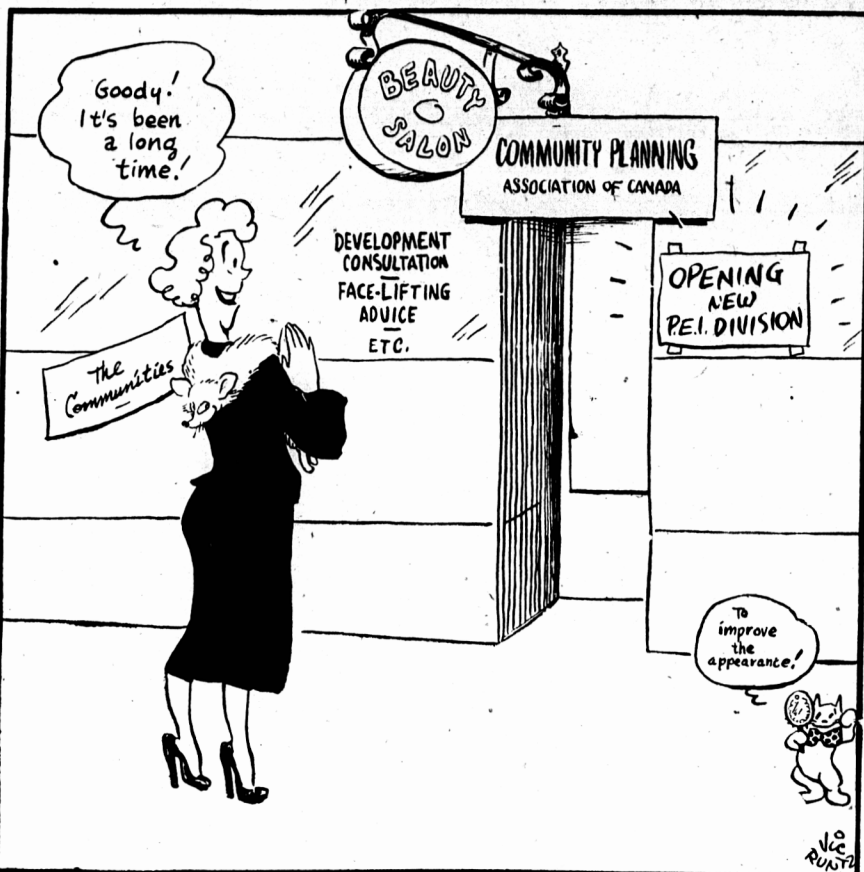
Bold and truthful (says Letter Review) was Mr. Abbott's remark that re-arming in Canada must bring a temporary reduction in standards of living, unless and until there be a rapid expansion of production.

One of the international chickens coming home to roost on Prime Minister Attlee's political homestead is his nationalization policy. Almost every dominion or territory with which Britain is associated, has its agitators proclaiming what is good for Britain is good for us, hence the overseas troubles which are mounting higher and higher as Britain's general election campaign proceeds.

The attempt on the part of some inexperienced organizer practically to boycott the Press in connection with the Royal banquet at Ottawa is not altogether new. From time to time bureaucrats appear on the scene who do not realize what Press publicity means in putting over a big undertaking such as a public testimonial or demonstration.

Organized education, it is emphasized, must provide youth with real opportunities for participation as active partners in community affairs. Every community needs additional services, and has great resources in its youth who are eager to acquire status in the community through rendering service.

Beauty Aid



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.

TEACHER TRAINING

Sir,—Probably the greatest mistake made, when changing the system of teacher training, was in not making it a complete change. By that I mean, that a teacher with a second-class license acquired by a one-year course retained that license and classification while future teachers were required to spend two years in order to acquire what is commonly recognized as the same license.

That injustice and abnormality would have been avoided had all former licenses and classifications been cancelled and new licenses issued designated as grade I, 2, 3, according to qualifications. In this way the former second-class teacher and the student with one year and a summer course of training in methods of teaching would be issued a grade I license. The former teachers with a first class license acquired by two years at college, and the teachers taking the new two year course would be issued a grade II license. And finally the teachers with a three year course under the new system would be issued a grade III license.

If that had been done it would have avoided the teacher shortage, also the injustice, confusion and abnormalities of the present situation, such as a grandmother with a second-class license acquired by a one-year course forty years ago and who has not taught for over thirty years, now being recognized as a second-class teacher and receiving a salary according, while the student fresh from one year or more at college, plus a summer course in methods of teaching, being designated as a "Permit" teacher and receiving a very much lower salary.

This situation, (as I wrote in an earlier letter) enables the married women, who are financially secure, to return to the profession, and because she has a license she is given a preference over young people who have better qualifications but cannot secure a license.

Therefore, it is urged that this mistake be corrected at once, that the injustice, confusion and abnormalities be removed, by cancelling all licenses and by issuing new ones on a graded basis according to qualifications.

If this is not done the shortage of teachers will continue, in fact it likely will increase. There will almost surely be decreased numbers of young persons enter the profession, while more and more married women will return to the profession, but bear in mind that should this trend continue for a few more years, then the older married women will begin to discontinue teaching while the "reserve" of younger ones will be much less, then will come an even greater shortage than at present.

I am, Sir, etc. "PARENT"

Go West, Old Man

(The Times, London) In those countries that are collectively known as western democratic, or simply free, authority has recently become increasingly perturbed by the Communist exploitation of youth.

Notes By The Way

A new electric harpoon embodying electrodes instead of an explosive charge in the harpoon head will form part of the equipment of British whaling ships shortly leaving for the Antarctic. The advantages of the new harpoon are both economic and humanitarian—it kills whales more quickly (in a minute instead of an hour or more) and does little damage to the flesh in the process. — UK Information Office.

Vancouver can be proud of its new art gallery. It puts this city in the forefront of Canadian cultural centres. An art gallery should be no mere storehouse of treasures, but an active cultural force in the community. The directors and curators have always had this in mind but were hindered by lack of facilities. The new institution is well equipped to serve the public as well as the specialists. — Vancouver News-Herald.

Because of his desire and determination to escape from jail in Ottawa, a prisoner jumped from the jail wall to the ground below—a distance of 20 feet. He broke both feet on landing on a heap of rubble. Did he apply the same degree of determination to honest pursuits, he might stay out of jail. On the other hand, his lack of good judgment, exemplified by his failure to realize that he couldn't make such a leap safely, may have been a contributing factor in leading him from a law-abiding occupation to crime. — Fort William Times-Journal.

A rousing three cheers for the Canadian Research Committee on Practical Education which, after four years of looking into what we are doing in our schools, has come with this recommendation: "There should be more emphasis on grammar and composition. To improve oral and written expression and bring out clear and logical thinking, greater use should be made of oral and written reports based on assigned tasks." Queen's University's scholarly Prof. MacNeill, in his great lecture of two years ago—"Have You Anything to Declare?"—offered the same advice. It will be a good thing for Canadian education when the advice is taken; when our primary and secondary schools start thinking less of drills and assembly of youth now meeting at Cornell University. Although admirable though these gatherings are, in their own right, no one has yet suggested the obvious solution. The proper answer to a festival of youth is not another festival of youth but a festival of age.

It is frequently urged that the future belongs to youth. Those who do so apparently forget that by the time the future arrives the youth will no longer be young. The present, which, after all is what matters in politics, invariably belongs to the aged and often to the very aged indeed.

Youth, in fact, is an absurdly transient condition lasting—so far as voters are concerned—a mere five or six years. Clearly it is not worth the consideration of any serious politician. A little thought will quickly show, moreover, that while no one is going to be young, nearly everybody—granted reasonable luck and an adequate supply of penicillin—is going to be old. Conversely, every one ceases to be young but no one ceases to be old until he ceases to be anything at all.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) UNGENTLEMANLY ACT "On Monday evening last, while the members of the Ladies Temperance Association were listening to a lecture by the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, at Mr. LePage's school room, some young men outside fired a pistol at the window, which broke a pane of glass and drove the pieces into the room, close past the ear of one of the ladies. Such actions, besides being contrary to law, are equally so to the rules of order and respect; and if they are again attempted in this community, to the disturbance of any Society—and in an especial manner of this Association, whose principal object is to disseminate the blessings and benefits of teetotalism throughout the length and breadth of the land—the perpetrators thereof may rest assured that their names will be made as public as possible. These gents are well known, and if they show no respect for the ladies or for the very gentleman who was lecturing, they may receive such a castigation as will make them have respect for themselves by a different course of right conduct in future." —The Islander, Oct. 5, 1949.

The Poet's Corner

MAPLES IN AUTUMN Loveliness glowing with life yet chilled With the chill of the dying— Winning to beauty in death as sun Wins to beauty in setting. How have you lifted my heart When the blackbirds were flocking and flying! Crimson, and gold, and gay; aware The when The trees are dreaming: Lost in all greenness you lived Now you are come unto glory— Out of the shadow of things, and Woodlands are gay in your gleaming.

Above in the spire-like trees the crows Are rapturously calling. Meadow lands yield to the plow— The earth grows empty and sodden. And your leaves in their crimson And gold are quietly falling. —Lucy Gertrude Clarkin.

ZIONIST CONVENTION

MONTREAL, Oct. 10 (OP)—The Zionist Organization of Canada will hold its biennial convention in Toronto, Jan. 5-7, 1952, it was announced here today.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. Molsaac Part One (continued) (All Rights Reserved) FURTHER GLIMPSES OF SCOTLAND

There were some interesting experiments going on (in Ayr) in poultry feeding, breeding, and grass silage. There, too, is the headquarters of the bee industry in southern Scotland. An interesting sidelight at some of those Scottish institutions was the way they posted notices, mostly in verse. For instance, at the apilary farm, here, there was the following notice.

"If to bees you must attend, Careless ways you must amend. Clumsy efforts at the hive. End in pain to all alive."

One of our boys memorized this but soon forgot its moral. He was shortly reminded of it in a practical way. Then we could restrain ourselves no longer and the bus driver steered toward the old Brig o'Doon and the Burns' cottage. Here we got a forceful lecture on the sanctity of this place and on the life of "the greatest poet that ever lived."

The old cottage where he was born is well preserved, the shelves and the dishes are still there in the corner of the kitchen. The open fireplace, the cot in the wall and the wee window of this old log cabin picture recall the home of a very cosy family.

In the museum next door, there are some thirteen hundred books written on the life and work of this one man. And he lived only thirty-seven years. Burns had no formal education, but it is recognized that he was an educated man. He spoke and wrote in French and English as well as in the Scottish dialect. In order to get the feel of the place, we took a stroll down to the Banks o'Bonnie Doon and to the old "Alloway Kirk", from where the ghosts came that chased Tam O'Shanter as he was riding home aside his old mare, Maggie, inspired by "John Barleycorn." However, they caught only the old mare's tail as he reached the old bridge. Burns tells us that:

"Last spring she saved her master hale, But left behind her ain grey tail, A ghost had caught her by the rump, And left poor Maggie scarce a stump."

In the museum, too, it was possible to read, in his own hand writing, the original composition of some of his best poems, "Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot," "The Cotter's Saturday Night," "My Love She's But a Lassie Yet," and many other familiar songs and poems that are known wherever Scots have travelled.

After the usual toasts and celebrations, we drove down town and saw the "Auld Brig" and the "New Brig" and enjoyed re-reading his poem about their dispute. We then spent a few very enlightening hours at the Dairy Research Institutes where a great deal of research work is now being done on the food value of different grasses, the protein content of milk, milk drying and causes of losses in cattle being shipped from England to Africa and other very hot climates.

The next day we crossed the border country to Dumfries. There is some real sheep country through here and some flocks of beautiful Border Cheviots. In the Dumfries area, we visited some dairy farms and the headquarters of an artificial breeding centre owned on a cooperative basis by the farmers.

Then we went across the Lothian Hills into Edinburgh via Moffat and Dalkeith. The Lothian and Border Farmers' Cooperative operates in this area. You could see that those farmers really mean business, for today there is one of the biggest cooperatives in Scotland and is doing a wonderful job in the marketing of seed grain and the distribution of farm supplies. It is a rolling country through those hills and you get some idea of the shepherd's life.

The land is good for pasture only, in the highest parts, and the highlanders do not bother with fences and barbed wire. Their sheep when they are put out, and in the fall they get the clip of the same number but not necessarily the same sheep. In the highlands especially, the sheep are brought in to shearing bees or rallies and each man gets his rightful number of fleeces.

We passed by the Devil's Beef Tub, which was the centre of the cattle rustling in the old days. The bus driver told us the family name of some of the most ruthless rustlers and thieves who were deported to America, he said. I assured him that their descendants were valued and law-abiding citizens today. Be that as it may, it must have been a rough country in those old days, and our forefathers, no doubt were glad, in spite of the hardships, to find a land where there was some peace and quiet, and where, out of the bush, they could hew out new homes for themselves.

Back in Edinburgh, the circle was completed, but the tour was not over yet. The next day, Easter Sunday, Mary joined me in Edinburgh and after a short look around again, we took the train to Glasgow, where a friend we had met in England, had invited us to visit and spend Easter with his family. Easter Saturday night when we arrived in Glasgow, there were several natives about the streets, each of whom was quite confident that "Glasgow belongs to me." Easter morning we were up early, and after Mass, caught the bus for Loch Lomond. It was snowing just enough to settle the

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The Age-Old Story

There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing; there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.