

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street...

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Mr. MacMillan's Proposal

The announcement by the British Foreign Secretary that the Western powers are prepared to offer Soviet Russia a "military understanding" in return for Soviet support of German reunification is new evidence of the seriousness with which the West views the German problem.

In effect, the proposal goes a long way towards acceding to the Soviet request of a year or so ago for a general European security pact which would include the Soviet Union as well as the Nato powers...

Fire In Mysticism

Fire—the prevention of which, in a physical sense, is this week's special theme—has occupied a mystical role in the world from the earliest times of which there is any record.

The Bible mentions fire more than fifty times. Often it is used as a symbol of the divine presence; as, for example, the experience of Moses at Horeb, when he saw "a bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed"...

...the poets have never tired of musing on fire. Byron wrote of the passing years "that steal fire from the mind as vigour from the limb."

Edward Young in his "Love of Fame" wrote of "souls made of fire and children of the sun."

As for fire's benevolent character, materially as well as philosophically, Longfellow's translation of certain lines attributed to Michaelangelo is in a class by itself:

"Not without fire can any workman mould The iron to his preconceived design, Nor can the artist without fire refine And purify from all its dross the gold;

Nor can revive the phoenix, we are told, Except by fire.

"O fortunate fire that burns Within me still to renovate my days, If by its nature unto Heaven returns This element, me, kindled in its blaze, Will it bear upward when my life is fled."

Prison Report

A report of the Prison Commission of the United Kingdom shows that, whatever the situation may be like elsewhere, in Britain crime is diminishing. Last year the prison population was at its lowest level in five years.

As is the fashion in other countries, British prison officials are experimenting with certain reforms in the direction of leniency. For example, at one prison selected inmates "were given 10 shillings and told to go out and buy shaving kit, note paper, and other articles."

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is the Jubilee year of the Catholic Extension Society with headquarters in Chicago. Throughout a half-century the society has been contributing a million dollars a year to churches in need of financial help.

Big city "smog" hitherto regarded as more of a nuisance than health menace has been revealed as a possible cause of cancer. Considering the huge volume of smoke and gas fumes that enters the air hourly, it stands to reason that the consequent pollution must be dangerous to health.

The official Soviet newspaper is of the opinion that "in the absence of serious conflict of interests between the Soviet Union and Canada a basis toward fruitful co-operation is possible".



Easier To Prevent One Than To Stop It

The Happy Warrior.

Having just come from Boston's South Station, where I watched the arrival of Mr. Harry Truman, my thoughts are upon the career and achievements of this man who was President of the United States for nearly eight years.

A PLACE IN HISTORY

But the man from Independence is much more than a successful politician who in the testing time was able to evoke a response from his fellow citizens.

MADE MANY ENEMIES

It cannot be denied that Truman made many enemies and created divisions among members of his own party. He never seemed to develop the kind of devoted personal following that surrounded Franklin Roosevelt.

PUNDITS WERE UPSET

But the high point of Truman's career came in 1948 when he came before the American people as a candidate for the presidency in his own right.

NOTES BY THE WAY

From here on, let the grass grow long on the lawn. It'll be something to fall back on when fitting the upstairs storm windows.

Politicians—and others—shoot lot of guff about our supposedly "unlimited natural resources."

They do things in a big way up north. When pieces of garden hose began to sink into the earth in the U.S. this year, people thought it was something.

Canadian stamps in recent years have been disgraceful caricatures. They have had not the slightest merit other than the purely utilitarian one of paying postage.

At a time when some criticism has been levelled at the motor car industry for building cars of increased horse power, it should be remembered that the accident rate per mile driven on this continent has been decreasing.

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