

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1952

Encouraging Census Figures

It is encouraging to note that Prince Edward Island gained 5,000 in population since the taking of the census a year ago. We now have 103,000 people living here according to the Bureau of Statistics. This is not an all-time record, but it indicates a continuing upward trend from the population slump which struck us half a century ago. Prior to that, our population had climbed progressively from 62,678 in 1851 to 80,857 in 1861, 94,021 in 1871, 108,891 in 1881, and 109,078 in 1891. From then it declined to 103,259 in 1901, 93,728 in 1921, 88,615 in 1931. An increase to 95,047 was shown in 1941, and a further increase to 97,787 in 1951.

In the earlier figures quoted, of course, our comparative position was much stronger. The population of the whole country in 1851 numbered less than 2,500,000 persons, all of whom excepting some 61,000 were located in Eastern Canada. During the next three decades the increases were fairly evenly distributed. The period 1881-1891 saw the first important shifts in distribution of population, when the Maritime trend levelled off and the population of the Western Provinces more than doubled. This was followed by the period of greatest expansion, 1901-1911, with more than half of the total increase taking place in the West. Again in 1911-1921 the Western Provinces absorbed the major part of our million-and-a-half population increase, and the Maritimes suffered most severely.

It is the Western Provinces now that are feeling the effects of the levelling-off process, though it is noteworthy that in the Bureau of Statistics figures for the year ending June 1 last, all the Provinces show population gains, the largest being in Ontario and Quebec.

Power Transmission Scheme

If and when cheap electrical power is developed on a large scale in New Brunswick, there should not be any difficulty in supplying Prince Edward Island requirements as well. A joint operational scheme of this kind has long been mooted, and its feasibility is underlined by recent news from the Old Country. The British Electrical Authority has approved in principle a plan to hook up the electrical networks of France and Britain, thus making available to British factories the abundant and cheap hydro power the French can draw from Alpine streams.

The proposed submarine cable carrying power across the British Channel is the result of a report prepared by a joint committee of the British and French electricity corporations. It takes cognizance of how usefully the power load can be spread between the two countries and other factors entering into the problem. When built, the cable will not only serve commercial and industrial purposes, but it will mean a new link in the solidarity of NATO nations.

The Eisenhower Outlook

General Eisenhower's nomination as Republican candidate for the presidency of the United States gives special importance to the following excerpts from his address on foreign policy delivered just prior to the opening of the convention: "Those who assert that America can live solely within its own borders; those who seem to think we have little or no stake in the rest of the world and what happens to it; those who act as though we had no need for friends to share in the defense of freedom—such persons are taking an unjustified gamble with peace. They are no friends of America's security. There is not the counsel of enlightened self-interest. It is the counsel of eventual self-destruction. . . . The bleak scene of an America surrounded by a savage wolf pack could be our lot if we heed the false prophets of living alone—who preach that we need do nothing except maintain a destructive retaliatory force for use in the event the Russian army should march. Why should armies march if the Communists can count more and more political conquests such as they achieved in Czechoslovakia? This will be the result of a retreat by us into isolationism. . . .

"Some regard the United Nations in terms of its shortcomings; and would reduce our support for it to a reluctant minimum. True, the United Nations, in seven years of life, has fallen short of its peace objectives. But the whole world has fallen short—and for reasons which are plain. Should we then surrender our objective? Of course not. For our objective is peace. The United Nations is an instrument of peace. Our aim must be to make it more vital and effective. "There must be no wavering in our support for the North Atlantic Alliance. Even those who blindly opposed its launching admit that it has stopped the spread of Communism in Europe and the Mediterranean. Our security agreements with other American countries and the peoples of Asia and the Pacific must be similarly supported. . . . "Only through positive pronouncement of our long term intentions in the international field can we ourselves be sure of our nation's aims. We should boldly announce that we will never lose interest in a people who want to be free—who live unwillingly behind the Iron Curtain. This means the launching of a concerted political programme that will establish our peaceful intent; encourage our Allies; and assure all the world that as long as any nation is enslaved we shall never be indifferent to its people's lot. . . . "To be strong, we must have an unshakable spiritual strength. Let us constantly proclaim to all peoples our belief in God and our devotion to the ideals and causes that spring from such belief."

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The outbreak of the Black Death, bubonic plague, in Saudi Arabia is a reminder of how man's enemies can never be regarded as fully beaten. In this case it is principally the rat with which he must contend.

Fredericton is understandably proud of its year-old publishing enterprise, University Press, which has made it easier to publish Maritime prose and poetry. Now the first of a children's series, the Beaver Books has come out. It is "The Cow With The Musical Moo", by Dr. W. C. D. Pacey.

Lt. Col. A. T. (Goldie) Gardner, last year's winner of 16 new International and American Class F records on the Utah Salt Flats in a supercharged M. G. Special, is sailing on the Queen Elizabeth July 30, hoping to win more laurels with the same car.

The U. S. is a very close second but the British tanker fleet, so ravaged in wartime, is once again the biggest in the world. In the first six months of this year U. K. tonnage rose by 225,000 tons to 7,145,180 tons, or 22.9 per cent of the world total. The U. S. fleet represents 22.63 per cent.

Coventry Patmore, English poet, was born this date 1823. He began to write poetry while at school and published his first volume of verse in 1844. He was largely responsible for promoting the volunteer movement of 1851. Distrust of France and the weakness of the regular forces gave rise to numerous "rifle volunteer" corps which, however, were never in action as such and were merged in the Territorials in 1908.

The news that Runnymede is for sale seems almost sacrilege. In 1215 King John signed Magna Carta on the little island in the River Thames. Historians persist in debunking the popular idea that the Great Charter was a cornerstone of liberty for the common people but, whatever its immediate object, it has been the touchstone of the liberty of the subject in many lands for these hundreds of years.

A booklet received recently outlines the history, objects and services of the Royal Canadian Humane Association. The Society makes awards in cases of life-saving within Canada or in adjacent waters. Private persons knowing of such rescues may send to Hamilton their recommendations for an award. So strict is the limitation, however, that recognition is not given where the person saved is a member of the rescuer's own family.

During the year 1951-52 the Canadian Government provided economic assistance to India under the Colombo Plan to the tune of 15 million Canadian Dollars. Giving this information in the House of the People on June 19th during question hour, Finance Minister Mr. C. D. Deshmukh said, of this contribution 10 million Canadian Dollars were being received in the form of 114,000 tons of wheat, the sale proceeds of which were being used in financing the Mayurakshi Project as agreed upon between the Canadian and the Indian Governments. In addition, a number of buses and lorries for the Bombay State Transport Corporation were likely to be received, the approximated value of which would be about 4.5 million Canadian Dollars. The question of the supply of some equipment for the Mayurakshi Project, valued about .5 million Canadian Dollars, is under discussion.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) CONFEDERATION PAINTING

"It is a matter of great satisfaction to every Islander interested in the success of his fellow countrymen to know, that the contract for executing the proposed historical painting, commemorating the Confederation of the British American Provinces, is to be awarded to Mr. Robert Harris, of this city. Mr. Harris is a well-known and talented Canadian artist, who, for the past four or five years, has been engaged in prosecuting his studies in the three great art centres of the world—London, Paris and Rome. Among Canadian artists, it is readily admitted by all critics that he stands preeminently first. We congratulate Mr. Harris, and hope that, before long, his name will be as well and favorably known on the other side of the ocean as it is in Canada. —The Examiner, May 18, 1883.

In a biographical sketch of Mr. Harris written some years ago by Dr. Frank MacKinnon, it is noted that the Confederation painting as originally planned was to be of the Charlottetown Conference of Sept. 1864; but the Government later requested that the scene be laid at the Quebec Conference of October of the same year, as being more representative of the participating Provinces. The original remuneration agreed upon was \$4,000. The change involved the addition of a dozen extra figures, which meant increased work for Mr. Harris; but he refused to seek more payment because he considered that it "would seem grasping". He had been very happy to get the assignment, "feeling all the time," he said, that "it was an opportunity to produce something which ought to be of value in the annals of Canada."

"Much of the quality of the finished portrait," writes Dr. MacKinnon, "resulted from meticulous attention to detail. Mr. Harris sent questionnaires to all persons whom he knew were familiar with the Confederation leaders, asking for information with respect to their height, hair, whiskers, complexion, eyes, the color of clothes and cravat, and even the size of the hands. In addition, he travelled a good deal to visit the survivors of the Conference and the relatives of those who had passed on, in order to collect photographs and obtain a working knowledge of the personality and appearance of his subjects."

"He spent the spring and summer of 1883 in Charlottetown drawing a full-size cartoon in charcoal, and in October he moved to Montreal where he painted the picture during the winter of 1883-84. By April it was completed and shown in the exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy. In May he presented it to the Government, through Sir Hector Langevin, then Minister of Public Works, and it was hung in the Parliament Buildings."

The painting itself is too well known to require description—thirty-four statesmen sitting round the table listening to Macdonald, and "Tupper expressing their views on the proposed union, against the familiar three-windowed background revealing the harbour of Quebec in the distance, and constituting an inspiring memorial of a great occasion."

An interesting feature is that the Fathers of Confederation are represented not as they appeared in 1864, but in the more mature aspect of their later years. In this connection quotes the following comment on the picture by Mr. Sandwell: "It was painted at a sufficient distance of time from the event itself to allow of the free exercise of a great deal of artistic imagination. Had Robert Harris been present in the council room and made sketches with a view to the production of such a painting, it is normally certain that he would never have been able to produce such an impression on the public mind as he did by working nearly twenty years later upon the task of historical reconstruction. . . . By working backwards from 1883 Harris was able to give to his Macdonald, his Tupper and many others of the group a sort of prophetic suggestion of the richer and fuller character that they were to develop in their later years, and thus to make them far more interesting as well as more comfortable to the public conception of them."

Financially (notes Dr. MacKinnon) it brought the artist no return other than the original \$4,000 paid him. He had counted on the copyright, but he was not to get it, for, after he had returned from his wedding trip in Europe in 1884, he found that various persons had been allowed to photograph the picture, and many reproductions had been distributed. "The subsequent history of the picture was brief. In 1916 fire destroyed the Parliament Buildings and with it the painting. This was a blow to Harris as well as to those who knew and admired it. The Government of Canada requested him to paint it again, but he felt that he was too advanced in age and not equal to the task. The best he could do was to touch up the charcoal sketch from which he had done the original, and present it for installation in the new building, where it hangs in the Railway Committee room."

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The Age-Old Story Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all.

The Neighbors By George Clark



"I'm so sorry I lost your speech, Senator. May I write you another one?"

Notes By The Way

The thrifty Scots who propose using seaweed for animal food should study Canadian Maritimers who eat it themselves. —Ottawa Journal.

To offset the charge that armies are always wasteful comes the news that at one stage in World War the British Southeast Asia Command used thorns instead of pins to keep headquarters papers together. —Ottawa Journal.

The liner United States raced across the Atlantic to set a new record and anchored for the night just outside New York harbor. The passengers would have reached their New York dock just as speedily had the ship taken another 12 hours or so in its voyage. —Ottawa Journal.

It would be wrong to think that the Dean of Canterbury has made no contribution to knowledge. He gave an imperishable picture the other day of how Chinese peasants go out in the fields and collect "germs" with chopsticks, dropping them into bottles in the next breath the "germs" became "insects," which is a little better but still as funny. Perhaps the Dean may introduce the new sport to the children of Canterbury. —Manchester Guardian.

A gentleman found in a London, England, gutter, staring upwards, with a fixed look in his eye, appeared in court on an intoxication charge and told the judge he was bird-watching. The judge held there was room for reasonable doubt and dismissed the charge. That's a handy one to remember. And of course, if you are flat on your stomach, you can be studying insect life. —Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

A News-Chronicler man who had passed that way quite a number of times over quite a number of years, dating back actually to the beginning of the century, saw something at Sault Ste. Marie last week he had never seen before. It was the ship canal and locks at the Michigan Lock entirely without ships being locked through. Normal traffic is such that four locks, set side by side opposite the rapids, plus one other on the Canadian side, are deemed necessary to the

Village Life

(Windsor Star) The Archbishop of York has expressed concern at the disappearance of "village life" from England. The village is losing its distinctive characteristics and is being permeated by the industrial and commercial spirit of larger urban centres.

The same is occurring on this continent, because of modern communications. Most villages now, except those in outlying parts, are only a minute to cities by telephone and only an hour or so from a large city by automobile. They are being drawn ever more closely into the orbit formed by large centres of population. This has an inevitable effect on their way of life: none suggests villages should remain isolated little communities, forgotten and uninfluenced by modern developments, and ideas. But villages and towns have been peopled by solid citizens, not apt to be victims of fads and fancies, be these social, economic or political.

Village life has much to commend it. There may be lacking some of the excitements and allurements which exist in cities. There also is lacking some of the tensions and pressures conducive to stomach ulcers and heart ailments.

East German Partition Drive

By W. N. Ewer The resolutions passed by the congress of the East German "Socialist Unity Party" certainly have the effect almost certainly have the intention of making the achievement of German reunification more difficult and indeed almost impossible. And since the Socialist Unity Party is completely under Communist control and does nothing without the approval of Moscow, the resolutions make nonsense of the Soviet Government's professions of desire for speedy unity on a democratic basis. Germany, the East German Communists now formally declare, cannot be reunited before "the downfall of the vassal regime at Bonn". That is to postpone it to the Greek kalends, for the chances of the Federal Republic either collapsing or being overthrown are negligible. It may be that, with the incurable optimism of their kind, the Communists have persuaded themselves that if the downfall of the regime is made a condition of national unity, the West Germans will at once set to work to bring about that downfall. And they do indeed call on all West Germans to fight against the regime. It is a call which will find no response.

But the resolutions of the Congress do more than this. They stress and strengthen the already wide differences between the type of government which exists in the East and that which exists in the West. The new constitution which the party is decreeing for the Soviet Zone is so completely different both in structure and in basic principles from the constitution of the Federal Republic that it is impossible to conceive of any blending of the two.

It is now clear beyond any possibility of doubt that the German Communists have no intention of accepting democratic principles as the basis of a United Germany. The constitution which they are about to force upon the East is the blue print of the constitution which they would demand for all Germany. And it is one which no free German could accept.

The very method is to be noted. There has been no public discussion, no kind of debate, no consultation of the people. The Communist leaders simply announce without prior warning of any kind their decisions to a party congress. This is indeed naked dictatorship. And, as the manner, so the content of the new decrees is dictatorial and totalitarian. The East German state is to be highly centralized. The remnants of provincial self-government are to be swept away and the provinces themselves disappear. In their place will be fifteen districts each ruled by a "co-ordinator"—or gauleiter as the Nazis would have called him—responsible to the Prime Minister and each assisted by a nominated council.

The powers of the state itself are to be "constantly strengthened." And those powers are to be in the hands of the Communist party. The claim is made that the party itself is controlled by the working class. But since there is no machinery and no method by which the workers can exercise the slightest control over the party, the hypocrisy is a transparent one.

East Germany is to become in form as well as in fact a "people's democracy" of the same pattern as those already enforced on the East European satellite states. And

The Poet's Corner

SUMMER This is the half of year to be in an old frame house. I want to go Where homely things are enough to see— Cows and trees and geese in a row. The sea's too vast and the mountains high, And the city loud—and the hills are best. Hills that lie low beneath the sky With room for clouds to go over the crest. I shall lie out there where the world is wide, And watch the loaded, creaking wain Tip perilously down a mown hill-side, And hear the silence come up again. And I shall not count how the days accrue, Nor care for sun or for crusted drouth, While the well is deep, and the cider new, And the sweet grass drips from the horse's mouth. —Mary Finette Barber.

Legislative Gems

(St. Catharines Standard) The Ontario Municipal World is a very bright publication, the readership of which can help village, township, town and city council. The publication is authoritative on municipal law, which is the most democratic of all law, because it is in effect right in the home community. Hence after considerable research, The Municipal World comes up with discoveries of how in various States of the Union, a small set of elected people try and pass laws to govern the conduct of others. Here is something from humane society and traffic rules to the moral code: In Minnesota, men's and women's underwear must not hang of the same clothes line. In Gary, Indiana, it is against the law to ride a tramway within four hours of eating garlic. In Maine, it is against the law to set fire to a snail.

In California, it is a penal offence to set a trap for mice unless you have a hunting license. In Joliet, Illinois, a woman can be jailed for trying on more than six garments in one shop. In Kentucky, no woman may appear in a bathing suit unless armed with a club. In Jonesboro, Georgia, it is against the law to say: "Oh, Boy!" In Fort Madison, Iowa, the fire department must practice for 15 minutes before going to extinguish a fire. In New Hampshire, "When two motor vehicles meet at an intersection, each shall come to a full stop and neither shall proceed until the other has gone."

SEE NEW CROP BROOKS, Alta. — (CP) — Possibilities of growing hops commercially in the irrigated areas of Southern Alberta are being studied here.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Gaudet & Hazard, Frederic A. Large, Q.C., A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B., J. S. Taylor, J. A. Carruthers, R.O., Byron J. Grant, O.D., Matheson, Peake & Nicholson, Dr. W. R. Carson, Allison M. Gillis, LL.B., Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, H. R. Doane & Company, J. P. MacPherson & Son.

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