

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, SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1953

And Now For The Election

Public attention could not be diverted to electioneering prior to the Coronation and Prime Minister St. Laurent properly and wisely refrained from taking up the matter of an election date until the supreme pagantry of that event is past. The date now selected, August 10, is as late in the summer as was at all practical to allow enumerators to find the voters still at home; the fact that it also marks the opening of Old Home Week is neither here nor there. It is unfortunate that this Province is again ignored in the cabinet appointments made in anticipation of the election. Mr. J. Watson MacNaught, M.P., Q.C., the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Fisheries could with advantage have been raised to Cabinet rank, and it would be only fair to the Province to have recognized our status in this manner.

The last four years have seen far-reaching changes in this country, which no doubt will be duly emphasized by Government spokesmen. We have stepped from a post-war period right into the Cold War, bringing with it the extension of the Government's emergency powers, the expansion of our armed forces, the sending United Nations forces to Korea and N.A.T.O. forces to Europe.

The Government has taken further steps in social legislation, extending the national health programme, bringing in universal old age pensions at 70 and at 65 with a means test. University grants are provided on a population basis. Retail price fixing was outlawed.

The Coastal Fisheries Act was revised, as was the Food and Drug Act. The Criminal Code has been long under revision but at prorogation remained in the hands of a Commons committee. The Cost of Living Index has a successor in the Consumer Price Index. It has been provided that the Postmaster General may increase payments under contracts for carrying the mail.

Constitutional changes include specifically naming Canada in the Queen's Royal Style and Title, making the Supreme Court of Canada the final court of appeal, and empowering Parliament to amend the constitution so far as it relates to matters that are purely Federal.

The Government has been under sharp criticism for assuming excessive powers, for heavy expenditure without proper checks and safeguards and for permitting Commonwealth and foreign trade to fall off and prices to rise. As the campaign warms up, these and other charges will doubtless be fully discussed. If there are no clear-cut issues between the major parties such as existed in years gone by, there are enough minor ones to provide ammunition on both sides for a lively electoral battle.

Mr. Pearson's Warning

A timely warning has been sounded by Hon. Lester Pearson, Canada's External Affairs Minister, with regard to the serious differences which appear to be developing over the situation in Asia, and to the need of clarifying the issues at the impending Big Three conference in Bermuda. As President of the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Pearson's words will carry weight throughout the free world. Briefly, he points out that there is no dispute over the necessity of resisting Communist military aggression. On the other hand, other new forces have swept across the Far East since the Second World War, related to "the awakening urge of millions of Asians for national freedom and a better life." "If we of the West," he says, "are not able to agree on the distinction between those two forces which require a different approach and understanding by us, our co-operation in this part of the world may weaken and disappear to the joy and relief of those forces centred in Moscow and Peking who are using foul means and fair to bring about just such a result."

The chief centre of interest today, of course, is the Korean situation; but this cannot be isolated from the overall problem of United Nations policy in the Far East. Britain, for example, has been fighting a war against the Malayan jungle Communists for the past five years; it has brought the Kremlin's forces there to a virtual standstill, but there is still no sign that peace in Korea would spread to this vital corner of Southeast Asia. About 8,000 lives have been lost and thousands more

wounded, tortured or mutilated in this struggle with guerrilla terrorists. Whole communities have been uprooted and the lives of millions affected. Mr. Pearson did not cite this instance, but he no doubt had it in mind in echoing President Eisenhower's warning that "no nation can go it alone any more," and that agreement on broad policies of economic and social betterment is as necessary as successful military co-operation.

Review At Spithead

The frigate H. M. S. Surprise, acting temporary Royal yacht, has a proud role to play Monday when the Queen stands on the specially built-up forecastle to review her navies and the ships of friendly powers. Some 270 ships will be assembled in twelve long lines extending to the westward from the entrance to Portsmouth harbour. In addition there will be a fringe of private yachts and small boats, including Sir Winston Churchill's own fleet, the lifeboats of Trinity House.

Each ship will be "dressed over all", every flag in the locker being strung from stem to stern. More than 50,000 men will line the rails as the big guns roar a Royal salute.

It is a very different fleet from that reviewed in 1937 when the Royal Navy displayed eleven battleships. This time there is but one, the 42,500-ton Vanguard. The emphasis today is on smaller ships capable of taking part in strategy involving air and undersea warfare.

Canada is represented by the aircraft-carrier Magnificent, with her 30th Carrier Airgroup whose Sea Furies and Avengers will take part in the naval fly past; by the cruisers Quebec and Ontario; the destroyer Sioux; and the frigates Swansea and La Hulloise. We will also have an ice-breaker and a fleet tender.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 2nd Sunday after Trinity, 3rd after Pentecost.

The increase of retail trade in this Province between 1941 and 1951 was no less than 239.6 per cent, according to the D. B. S., exceeded only by Saskatchewan's 249.8, British Columbia's 251.4 and Alberta's 286.7 per cent increases.

The return of the "Fairview" to service on Monday will be welcome to residents of Rocky Point and others. The weather has been such, however, during her refit that it is unlikely many intended holiday-makers were deterred from crossing the harbour because of the absence of the regular ferry.

Investment dealers were informed at their annual meeting this week that the Province of Prince Edward Island last November for the first time invited investment dealers to attend the opening of sealed tenders for a debenture issue. The financiers were appreciative of the courtesy.

Cars are not the only vehicles that can do with a check-up. Saskatoon checked 425 bicycles and only 50 were given a clean sheet. The most frequent fault was lack of a bell or horn. To all appearance, the greatest lack here is that of a light of any kind.

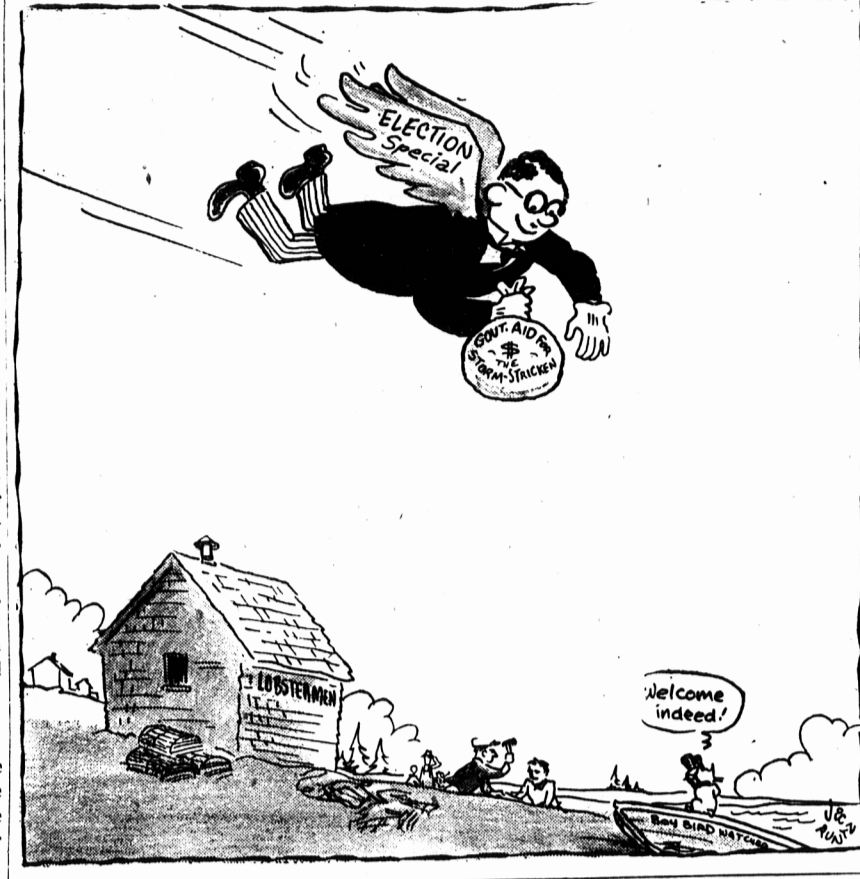
The Royal Navy, reports Reuters, doesn't want glamorously dressed women to visit its glamorously decorated warships during the Coronation naval review next week. "Too many colors make the general appearance of a ship untidy," a spokesman said. "Odd spots of high color spoil the symmetry."

Congratulations are due to the Hon. Keir Clark on his appointment as Minister of Education, and his constituents of Third King's on an able representative who is well qualified for executive duties, and whose conscientiousness and efficiency have been shown on many occasions in the House.

Britain is already well in the lead with jet transports and now it is proposed by 1958 to have an airliner capable of crossing from London to New York in six hours, and return the same day. The claim that it "puts Britain six years ahead of any competitor" would seem to be well justified.

William Butler Yeats, Irish poet and critic, was born this date 1865. The greatness of his later work is now beginning to be realized, but his earlier poems retain a generally wider popularity. He could verify the legends of his country with simplicity and fervour and possessed the power to weave moving images out of the most commonplace suggestions from the things around him. His outstanding genius was recognized in the award of a Nobel prize and a senatorship in the Irish Free State.

Adding Wings To It



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.

EVERYONE CO-OPERATED

Sir—Permit me space to make a correction of an item which recently appeared in which I was given credit for sending sixteen of the blood donors who went from Hunter River.

First of all the credit goes to the Women's Institute of which I am privileged to be a member.

They appointed Mrs. Lloyd Carey and myself to canvas the village and to my co-worker Mrs. Carey much of the credit belongs.

Then several men canvassed their business places at our request with very satisfactory results.

Several citizens who could not give blood offered their cars for transportation, for which we were very grateful.

Lastly the men who so cheerfully went at our request deserve credit.

It was entirely a community project and I was pleased at the results and glad to be a part of it. I am, Sir, etc.

(MRS. FRANK) RUTH BAGNALL Hunter River.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

RELATED MAILS

From the report of the Post Office Committee submitted to the Legislative Assembly, May 22, 1943.

"Your committee have ascertained that the mails which left this Island on the 29th day of November last, and arrived at Pictou on the same day, did not reach Halifax in time to be forwarded by the mail steamer leaving that port for England on the 3rd December, although a passenger from this Island by the same conveyance with the mail to Pictou, was in Halifax some days previous to the steamer leaving for England. It appears to your committee that orders for insurance on several vessels have been transmitted by the mail, two of which vessels were unfortunately wrecked prior to the leaving of the next English mail, and consequently the orders for insurance of these vessels, and the intelligence of their loss, reached England at the same time.

"Your committee are therefore of opinion that there has been in this instance either a culpable neglect on the part of the contractor for the conveyance of the mails between Pictou and Halifax, or of some of the postoffice authorities (and for which they ought to be held responsible) and that the Deputy Postmaster General is in duty bound to institute such enquiries as would enable him to account to the public for such extraordinary detention, resulting in very serious loss to individuals."

TORONTO, (OP)—The Atkinson Charitable Foundation announced Thursday that a grant of \$1,150 will go to the medical school of the University of Ottawa for research into aging of human bone tissue.

CLEAN CLOTHES WEAR LONGER

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Notes By The Way

Construction sometimes is a dangerous job, resulting in injuries or fatalities. That evidently is true among birds as among humans. A Windsor citizen recently noted a bird hanging upside down from a branch of a tree, a rather curious position. At the time he didn't pay much attention, but when he later noted it still there and in the same position, he sensed the bird was dead. When removed from the tree, it was found the sparrow had a fine piece of string tangled about its leg, the other end having been wound around a small branch. Trying to free itself, it had fallen, remaining suspended upside down. The little bird had been starting to build a nest, and was using the string as a material. Its mate hovered about the tree for a day or so, then disappeared. Birdland also has its tragedies.—Windsor Star.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police in general, D division which covers Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario in particular, has gone modern with a vengeance. Horses, which now appear only on ceremonial occasions, have been replaced by speeding patrol cars equipped with two-way radio. The sled dogs have given way to a monster on wheels called a bombardier snowmobile which costs less than the huskie. Trim cabin cruisers patrol the large lakes of D division and all branches are linked by radio to speed the work. The individual detachment moutie is the backbone of the force. His duties may vary from midwife to doctor to councillor, if he is in a remote district. However, he is backed by the skilled personnel of the traffic section, identification branch, criminal investigation and aviation section.—By The Canadian Press, Winnipeg.

Anemones sent by sea to Canada from the United Kingdom as an export experiment arrived in "astoundingly good" condition. An official of Britain's National Farmers' Union, which arranged the test in collaboration with the British Flower Industry Association, described the experiment as a "conspicuous success." Nine boxes of anemones—six from the county of Cornwall and three from the neighboring county of Devon—left London on March 31 in the chamber of a cargo vessel. The flowers reached Ottawa on April 10. The flowers opened well and looked good. Forty-eight hours after arrival there seemed little difference between the condition of blooms with waxed stems and of those without and between bunches secured with raffia or rubber bands, though in one or two cases the rubber bands had made a few small indentations.—From UK Information Office.

The Poet's Corner GLOMACHNOISE In a quiet water'd land, a land of roses, Stands Saint Kieran's city fair; And the warriors of Erin in their famous generations Slumber there. There beneath the dewy hillside sleep the noblest Of the clan of Conn, Each below his stone with name in branching Ogham And the sacred knot thereon. There are laid to rest the seven Kings of Tara, There the sons of Cairbre sleep— Battle-banners of the Gael that in Kieran's plain of crosses Now their final hosting keep. And in Glomachnoise they laid the men of Teffa, And right many a lord of Breagh; Deep the sod above Clan Creide and Clan Connall, Kind in hall and fierce in fray. Many and many a son of Conn the hundred fights he won In the red earth lies at rest; Many a blue eye of Clan Colman the turf covers, Many a swan-white breast. —T. W. Rolleston, from the Gaelic of Angus O'Gillan.

The Age Old Story God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things. . . . For we are also his offspring.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer CONCERNING THE DOUKHOBORS

Of all the strange observations I have heard about Canada and Canadians during the course of my travels in the United States I think the strangest was made by an acquaintance in Northern Michigan. We happened to be talking about the Canadian West when he remarked quite innocently and with evident sincerity: "That must be a queer country. They don't even have any laws up there. People are allowed to do just what they like!"

After a little prodding I discovered that the man had been reading about the Doukhobors and their bizarre behaviour which at the time appeared to be virtually winked at by the authorities. He concluded, naturally enough, that if one group could do pretty much what they liked and get away with it then all other groups would be entitled to the same consideration. That meant that laws in their normal meaning were non-existent.

I myself have never seen a Doukhobor and, as the poet said about the purple cow, I never hope to see one. However, like everybody else who is interested in the subject of human behaviour, I find the Doukhobor story an intriguing one although not exactly a pleasant one. The record shows that this quasi-religious sect has been a source of trouble, off and on, ever since they were admitted and given sanctuary in the latter part of the 19th century. The trouble they have caused has been no less serious because in the main it has stemmed from so-called "religious convictions". Every student of history knows there have been many occasions when religious convictions have been used to camouflage lawlessness and crime.

The first Doukhobor who allowed the Government of Manitoba to settle in Manitoba was guided by two considerations. The first was humanitarian in principle. New and growing communities are generally more tolerant of religious dissent than older ones. In Czarist Russia the Doukhobors had been persecuted, pilloried, and persecuted. In Canada no one would interfere with their religious beliefs however fantastic these might seem.

The second consideration was economic in principle. At the time the newly-opened West could absorb a great number of hard-working farmers who were prepared to "rough it" in undeveloped territory. The Doukhobors were reputed to fall into that category and, on the whole, it seems that the economic consideration has been justified. Unhappily, the humanitarian consideration has not fared so well. Religious tolerance has been interrupted by many of the immigrants and their descend-

ants as license to defy the laws of the land and established moral standards. This, of course, is the very antithesis of what is meant by religious freedom in any civilized society. Strange how ideas can change so radically within the space of a few years. Originally, according to the records, the chief Doukhobor religious tenet was "right living". Now, if only half of what we read about them is true, the word "lawless" has been substituted for "right". At least that is the case with the "Sons of Freedom" who, rightly or wrongly (probably wrongly), claim to represent the original Doukhobor thought in matters of religion and morals. I fancy that the thing that puzzles most Canadians as well as people in other countries is the apparent nonchalant attitude with which Government — Provincial and Federal — have approached the Doukhobor problem down through the years. As acts of violence have taken place there have been many discussions regarding what might be done to prevent further such occurrences but hardly any firm steps to deal with the particular crisis. There have been threats a-plenty but few instances where threats have been followed by action that could not be misunderstood.

British Columbia is now the parade ground of the incorrigible trouble-makers and some controversy is going on between the Government of that Province and the Federal Cabinet as to where the responsibility rests for keeping the Sons of Freedom in check. The fact is that neither Ottawa nor British Columbia is over-enthusiastic to tackle the problem with energy for the simple reason that neither government knows exactly what is best to be done. It is just another case of the reaping of the whirlwind that followed the sowing of the wind. The present fiasco would not have happened if the Doukhobors — the peaceable and the unruly alike — had been made to understand at the beginning that freedom to indulge in strange rites does not include the right to practice acts of terrorism.

After being molly-coddled for fifty years it is hard for the rebellious ones to believe that there is strength behind our concept of law and order. It may already be too late to teach the intractable Doukhobors wisdom in this respect. But, certainly, the Canadian people should see to it that in negotiating with other fanatical groups from other parts of the world who might covet a place in our "wide open spaces" governments should make it clear that religious freedom involves responsibilities as well as privileges.

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