

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1952

Youthful Ambassadors

Fifty-nine top ranking Air Cadets from all parts of Canada are ready to take off on their annual "exchange visits" jaunts to the United States, United Kingdom and continental Europe. On Monday morning, the honour cadets will clamber aboard RCAF and USAF aircraft at Montreal Airport to mark the opening of the sixth annual interchange of cadets sponsored by the Air Cadet League and the R.C.A.F.

The exchange scheme has come a long way since it was inaugurated in 1947 with a modest exchange of cadets between Canada and Britain's Air Training Corps. The United States Civil Air Patrol entered the scheme in 1948; Sweden joined the plan in 1950 and this year Canada will exchange cadets with Norway, Sweden, Holland and Denmark as well as with the U. S. and Britain. Twenty-six young Canadians will tour the United States; 25 cadets will take in the sights of the United Kingdom and two lads will go to each of the four continental European countries. Return groups of cadets from all of these countries will be entertained in Canada by the Air Cadet League and the R.C.A.F.

Primary purpose of the exchange plan is to stimulate an interest among youths in affairs removed from their local scene. While broadening the experience of these young men in their chosen field of aviation, the trips come also in the nature of a reward for outstanding services rendered as Air Cadets.

An interesting by-product of the cadet exchange scheme has been the impact made upon other countries by the Air Cadet idea as it is practised in Canada. After studying the Canadian pattern, Sweden launched an organization of "Air Force Boys" which has already reached a strength of 2,000 cadets. Holland has laid the groundwork for a similar youth movement while several other countries are expected to follow suit shortly.

Elusive Bookkeeping

In an age when it is no longer fashionable to be relevant, it is not surprising to discover more than a tincture of the irrelevant in the manner in which that monolithic structure, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, keeps its books. A glance at the CBC's annual report will suffice to substantiate this point of view.

Total revenues for the fiscal year 1951-1952, the CBC report states, amounted to \$14,813,598.01. By deducting from this figure the expenditures for the year, the CBC manages to show, on paper, a comfortable surplus on operations for the year. In point of fact, however, the CBC has a deficit rather than a surplus. For included in the revenue figures was an item of \$6,250,000, representing a government subsidy supposed to keep the CBC out of the red for a period not of one, but of five years.

Allowing for the inclusion of \$1,250,000 of the subsidy for the fiscal year 1951-1952, the total revenue of the CBC would have been \$9,813,598.01, against expenditures of \$10,674,415.36. So instead of the agreeable surplus of \$3,000,000 to which reference is made with such satisfaction in the report, in fact the CBC had a deficit of \$860,817.35, even after allowing for the \$1,250,000 subsidy.

The Reluctant Germans

Like a highstrung horse, Western Germany is showing considerable skittishness at the prospect of being harnessed to the European Defence Community. The harness itself, so proudly displayed by Dr. Adenauer in company with the foreign ministers of the United Kingdom, France and the United States at Bonn late in May, consists of two treaties. One is aimed at the establishment of the West German Federal Republic as a sovereign state. The other is intended to bring Western Germany into the six-nation defence community and to provide for the inclusion of twelve German divisions in the European Army.

Reason for German fears is the haunting threat of Soviet-precipitated civil war. Thoughtful Germans, many of them extremely anti-Soviet, fear that Moscow will force East Germany to some overt act of aggression that will create another Korea in the heart of Europe. A war of attrition, and between Germans at that, is an ominous enough threat to give even the most

ardent of Chancellor Adenauer's supporters pause for thought.

Before the treaties become a fait accompli, three hurdles must be successfully overcome. The first is ratification by the Bundestag, or lower house of the West German parliament. The second is ratification by the Bundesrat, or upper house. The third is a ruling from the Federal Republic's Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of the treaties.

Gravest doubt in German minds is the sincerity of an Anglo-American policy which professes to a genuine desire to see Germany reunited and independent. The socialist followers of Dr. Kurt Schumacher, for political reasons domestic in character, violently oppose the treaties on the ground that, if ratified they would accomplish only the integration of the western half of Germany in the Anglo-American alliance and would mark the deathknell of German aspirations for united independence.

Paradox in the existing situation is that the fate of western civilization itself is, for the time being, in pawn to a handful of vocal socialists.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of St. James.

The excellent turn-out for regattas Wednesday at North Rustico and Murray Harbour as well as at the St. Peter's Races indicates that there is as strong a demand for exciting outdoor entertainment here in summer as there is for hockey in winter.

The supreme authority on Moslem law has ruled that: "The authority to draw up laws for society and to supervise their execution requires qualities which only men possess." In the Moslem world the place of woman will continue to be the home or perhaps the harem, for a while longer.

The International Red Cross holding its four yearly meeting in Toronto has a great responsibility. If the organization should become entangled in the meshes of power politics which have for some time been laid for it, the Red Cross task of relieving human suffering is apt to come off badly.

Louis Bleriot, French aviator, flew from Calais to Dover this date 1909, to be the first man to cross the English Channel by air. His monoplane weighed 600 lbs., and had a 22 h.p. engine. He covered the distance of 31 miles in 37 minutes. Before his death in 1936 he claimed to have built about 10,000 planes and to have designed some 200 models.

To be the first airman ever to be stationed at either the R. C. A. F. Station, Summerside or the R. C. A. F. airport at Charlottetown is the unique distinction of Flying Officer (then Corporal) G. R. Merithew. Visiting here from his home in St. Catharines, Ont., he must be proud of the way the Summerside station has developed. The Charlottetown airport must strike him, however, as having been somewhat stunted.

The ruling of the Lyon King of Arms that the New Yorker Robert Lister MacNeil was "adjudged chief in 1950 and so remains," rather than Prince Edward Islander Colin MacNeil puts the former in the position of being officially the MacNeil of Barra. It is not to be expected, however, that the Vernon River branch of the family will give up their claims without a struggle.

Scientists of the International Commission will confer at the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea meeting in September to prepare a programme for research to be carried on in the Northwest Atlantic. This phase of the work was given decided emphasis at the St. Andrew's meetings and will play an important part in the programme of the Commission. Dr. Needler, who was re-appointed chairman of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics will represent Canada at the ICES meeting.

The peoples of South-East Asia, reports a U. N. agency, are now engaged in a tremendous effort to shake off widespread ignorance which is holding them back in their struggle against want, hunger and disease. All over the region—which is the home of some of the oldest and finest civilizations—nations can look back with pride to their architects and philosophers, poets, sculptors, mathematicians, religious thinkers. But they are fully aware of their present great handicap: the heritage of mass illiteracy—and they are determined to put an end to it. From Soekarno, the President of Indonesia and spare-time teacher of illiterates, to Mohammed Sidky, a young UNESCO scholar who adapts children's books to the needs of Afghanistan—men and women throughout South-East Asia are throwing themselves with enthusiasm into the immense job of building education.

Old Charlottetown

(And F. E. L.)

ON THE NORTH SHORE

The following excerpts are from an article appearing anonymously in the Daily Examiner of June 11, 1933: "New London sand-dunes, while far from forming the longest range on the island, are among the loveliest—attaining a height of 70 feet. When the sun of midday sun flashes on the Gulf and all its foaming coastline sounds a mighty vibrating chord in nature's harp of praise, the sand-hills, veiled in the thin sea-mist, gleam a long, white, glistening ridge, appropriate border to the waste of waters. They form a sea-wall to New London Bay. On the one side are the silvery waters of the sheltered basin, on the other the angry, booming Gulf. At sunset the sands are a gilded highway amid the waters, apparently linking in the view shore to the mist-shrouded front of distant Tryon.

"The sand-hills have a vegetation of their own. The wiry, slippery sand-grass, 'psamma arenaria', binds the sands together with its creeping roots, and the sand-piper, 'pisum maritimum', in endless profusion, waves its purple banners aloft on the dunes. They shelter numbers of peaceful glossy ponds, that with one border have the green skirts of the meadows, and in the other reflect the towering storm-filled forms of the dunes. Fields of purple iris, and their bright beauty round these miniature lakes and jungles of reeds filled with uncommon plants.

"These ponds are the home of wild fowl taking refuge from the storm-beaten outer coast. The mallard here first leads out her duckling brood on the silver surface, and the golden-eye hides its nests in the reedy borders. The gulls bring in their young from the stormy wave, and the pewit and the kerlew rejoice forever in this rich feeding ground. The blue heron at stilly eve stands in the shallow, and repeats an incessant peep for his young, and the slightly blither utters his booming cry in mimicry of the deep sounding sea.

"The level beach of sand in front of the dunes is the arena of the wildest elemental warfare. We go on it for the sake of being long lost in the roar of waters, and to feel the salt spray dashed into our face, and to brace ourselves against the wild buffeting of the wind, and to watch the crystal floods chase each other far up the smooth grey sand-floor. There is a little light to be seen here amid the dimming seaweed and the foam. A few solid shells of macra and the massive quahog, some dead littorine, and the large purple mussel, 'mytilus modiolus', with a fragment of snowy petriola, washed from its rocky lair in the reefs, are all that we find of our southern coasts.

"We wander by the breaking waves till evening tinges the west, and lofty Tryon is lost in the glory of the sunset, in the purple mists of even." The setting sun sinks right into the blazing water. We depress our eyes towards the water, where the mist is densest, and the intensity of the crimson and purple and golden light fills heaven and earth with such a quivering flame of glory as we may not see elsewhere.

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.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

Sir,—Bingo may be taken as a symbol of all games of chance. Suppose a player draw a prize of ten dollars. What is wrong with the player's exultation in the contest? If he gained, it was his luck; if he lost he had no complaint. What is wrong with such a transaction? It is in getting something for nothing. If this principle were applied to business it would undermine and destroy all commerce. In business no one can get something for nothing, except by theft.

It is when we apply this principle of getting something for nothing to the moral order that we see its fallacy. Take friendship for example. No one can enjoy the sweets of friendship without making corresponding contribution. A friendship sprang up between David and Saul, King of Israel, and through jealousy, Saul ceased to make any contribution to the union and the friendship soured. The quarrel between capital and labour comes at this point. Labour claims that capital wants too much, capital claims labour wants too much. Friendship can only come when each side is willing to make its just contribution to the union. Some of the Government handouts, no doubt, come under this heading, getting something for nothing which tends to undermine and destroy the social order.

Young people, today, easily turn away from honest work to schemes of making money which do not require work. Gambling, therefore is one of the most vicious and pernicious practices of our day. It is appearing in many forms in the church and outside the church: on the race track; in sport it has almost ruined boxing in the U. S.; and football and baseball are being threatened. Society is being honeycombed with dishonesty. It is making rogues of all kinds of people. We here in Canada are not so cursed with this craze as they are in the States because we haven't got the money to come and go upon.

This gambling habit would not threaten our civilization as it has except for the fact that the Christian Church is setting the example. Last year in one of our Canadian cities a men's club built a house for \$15,000 and sold tickets

The Neighbors

By George Clark



"Those chops were awful. Just ask my husband what a time I had making him eat them."

Notes By The Way

Candidate Harriman states he is not displeased with the reaction to his campaign for the presidential nomination. A lot of other people prefer quiet, too.—Windsor Star.

People become attached to the strangest customs. Britain is reported to have told the UN Trusteeship Council it is ready to abolish flogging in Tanganyika, East Africa, but the natives oppose the change.—Ottawa Journal.

According to Moscow reports, the Soviet Union expects a rich grain harvest this year. Now all that the Kremlin needs to dig up for the Russians is circuses. The germ warfare charges made by Russia against the West should fall into that category.—Ottawa Citizen.

In these days when potatoes are a pretty live topic of conversation it is interesting to note the world potato-growing record was claimed by a South Australian farmer who has grown 1,790 1-2 pounds of spuds from one pound of seed in 154 square yards of earth.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Transient salesmen are thick again as flies in the community. As usual, they have outstanding bargains—\$25 value for \$2.50, etc. It must be remembered that the sales-tact of these people is reckless. They can make any sort of statements to convince you of a bargain because they do not have to stay around to see if you are satisfied or not. Then, too, experience shows us that we may never receive what we have paid for.—Winkler Progress.

Too often, in this province today, one hears of employers complaining that young people, public school graduates, cannot add accurately, cannot spell correctly, and cannot write legibly. The average employer is quite pleased and satisfied with the keys we have received that we have paid for.—Winkler Progress.

The current crop of presidential candidates includes some very fair phrasemakers. There was General Eisenhower's comment that the Truman administration was "un-bred, ingrown and inept." Sen. Kefauver's reference to Eisenhower's "straight from the shoulder generalities." But for compressing the truth into neat capsules, no other has equalled Senator Kerr. Quizzed about Truman's record, he said: "Truman's record is what it is." Asked the source of the letter-writing campaign against his controversial bill on gas-rate regulations, he explained: "Those messages came from those who sent them to me. There we have a knack for interpreting the fact that when large numbers of people were unable to find jobs, unemployment resulted.—Chicago Daily News.

The Poet's Corner

THE IMMORTAL Beauty is still immortal in our eyes. When sways no more the spirit-haunted reed, When the wild grape shall build No more her canopies, When blows no more the moon-grey tittle seed, When the last bell has lulled the white flocks home, When the last eye has stilled The wandering wind and touched the dyvig foam, When the last moon burns low, and spark by spark into the dark. The little worlds die out along the dark. —Marjorie Pickthall.

The Age-Old Story

For God speaketh once, yes, twice, yet man perceiveth it not. . . . Yes, his soul draweth near unto the grave, and his life to the destroyers. If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness; then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found ransom. . . . He shall pray unto God, and he will be favourable unto him; and he shall see his face with joy; for he will render unto man his righteousness. —READER.

Cradle Of The R. A. F.

(By PATRICK GREGORY)

When Queen Elizabeth II goes through the R. A. F. Station at Halton in Buckinghamshire on 25th July to present a "Queen's Colour" to the 1 Technical Training School, Her Majesty will be paying a signal honour to the youngest members of the youngest Service: the R. A. F. Apprentices.

It is to the boys who yearly pass out of training establishments such as Halton that the R. A. F. looks for its nucleus of future N. C.O.'s and a leavening of its future officers. Since it was started in 1920, the Apprentice scheme has produced a steady flow of educated, well-trained men whose contribution in skill and experience has been of inestimable value to the R. A. F. both in flying and ground duties.

It is certainly a tribute not only to the school, but also to the high standard of efficiency that has marked its old pupils in their subsequent careers. The R. A. F. Halton should have earned such notable Royal recognition. On two previous occasions only have components of the R. A. F. been honoured with the rare award of a "Sovereign's Colour". The first was given by King George VI to the expanding Air Force, Marshal of the R. A. F. Viscount Trenchard decided that the only way to fill the gap with young men of the right calibre and necessary training was for the Service to start its own "Public Schools". A modest beginning was made at Cranwell in 1920 and two years later, in January, 1922, Halton opened its doors to its first intake of apprentices. Since then it has turned out more than 5,000 men who have been given R. A. F. commissions, besides many thousands more who have served with distinction as N.C.O.'s. Its "Old Boys" have been awarded nearly 1,000 decorations, including a V.C. and a G.C., and another 2,000 have been Mentioned in Despatches.

Such successes give the measure of the boys who enter the R. A. F. by this door. The Halton school makes them into good craftsmen and intelligent citizens. It cares for their bodies and helps them to

cultivate their minds. It gives them no more than an introduction to flying, but it can never be unaware that boys' ambition in these days tends more towards Wings on the tunic breast than to batons in knapsacks. That may explain why the school persists, even in its greatly expanded form, in being so much more than an establishment for the training of mechanics. . . . The boys spend much of their time in the workshops and laboratories, learning to use tools and machines, studying the details of the jet engine, assembling and dismantling the latest radar and radar devices, getting practical experience of gun turrets, tending aircraft on the aerodrome and practising the processes of periodic overhaul. But another part of their time is spent at desks in a school which naturally lays special emphasis on technical studies and yet seeks, like all good schools, to develop character and lead the boys to wider interests through a thorough general education. For off-duty hours, Halton provides facilities for every kind of recreation. Its 2,000 acres, one of a millionaire's estate, has 30 soccer pitches and 15 cricket pitches. The school boasts one of the finest indoor swimming pools in Britain, and one of the country's best equipped gymnasiums. The Halton Society caters for a score of different hobbies and pastimes, ranging from chess to angling, from amateur theatricals to gliding. There are also discussion groups and debating societies, and the apprentices contribute to the Halton Magazine, which is published twice a year. . . . On finishing their apprenticeship a certain small number of boys are each year chosen to go to the R. A. F. College at Cranwell for training as officers in the General Duties (Flying) Branch. Others are selected to go up to a university for a free course to gain an engineering degree and a commission later in the Technical Branch. Others again are chosen to become pilots or navigators. But whether singled out or not for these special distinctions, the ex-apprentices as a whole form the cream of the R. A. F.'s technical tradesmen. Perhaps the most outstanding figure that Halton has produced is Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle, the pioneer of the jet engine, who went from the school with a commission to take an honours degree in engineering at Cambridge University.

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