

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,765 Retail Trading Zone 8,457 All Others 824 Total Net Paid 13,048

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1951

Arms Standardization

It is most fitting that Canada's chief of the general staff, Lt.-Gen. Guy Simmonds, should again take up "the important question of standardization of arms" with Gen. Eisenhower and other Atlantic Pact military chiefs.

From the point of view of production we depend upon being able to exchange quantities of those items which we produce for the many and varied stores which it is impractical to manufacture for a small force.

What, Another "Expert"?

The Senate Finance Committee is experiencing heavy going in its useful and timely probe into the high cost of government. Ottawa's "bright boys", it seems, have the hard-working Senators sewed up in knots.

The man mooted for this assignment is Harvard's distinguished economist and expert in public administration, Professor Sumner Schlichter. Dr. Schlichter, it seems, proved an able sleuth in ferreting out extravagance and inefficiency in Washington while with the Hoover Commission.

Wool Price Scheme

Farmers in Canada will watch with a good deal of interest the latest large-scale attempt by other Commonwealth farmers to fix the price of their product. The commodity involved is wool and the membership in this price fixing scheme is confined to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Britain.

The Winnipeg Free Press recalls that a similar large-scale scheme of price fixing was adopted by the Canadian wheat pools in 1929 until they became bankrupt and had to be underwritten first by the Prairie Governments and later by the Bennett Government.

"In the case of the wool scheme," it adds, "its supporters are quite frank in admitting that the governments will be called on to bail them out if necessary. The original fund is to be put up by the growers but if it is exhausted the governments are to guarantee the additional amount necessary to maintain the reserve price.

many civilians from the use of wool and have greatly stimulated the search for substitutes. It is only necessary to note what the development of nylon has done to Japan's once large silk market on this continent to appreciate what could, happen to wool if the price is arbitrarily held above the market value, thereby encouraging satisfactory and cheap substitutes to come into general use.

EDITORIAL NOTES

His Honour Lieutenant-Governor Prowse has already undertaken many of the duties of his vice-regal office but today marks his and Mrs. Prowse's first official function as host and hostess at Government House.

Congratulations to Col. E. A. Baker, managing director of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Today Helen Keller presents him with a medal for outstanding service to the blind.

New terms are confusing. Why "thermal heating"? What heating is not thermal? asks a correspondent. "We shall next have round circles, wet water, unfriendly hate, and globular spheres." Not to mention critical critics.

Putting toms in the parking meters is a minor annoyance but already shoppers are finding that it is more than compensated for by the ease of finding parking space and the police no longer see the same cars repeatedly cruising by looking for space at the curb.

The Congress of Berlin commenced this date 1878. Called by and presided over by Bismarck, it proceeded to remake the map of Europe, altering the status or boundaries of Roumania, Servia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Eastern Roumelia, Greece, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Russia and Turkey.

The present emergency bears no threat to an economy which could produce both guns and butter, said Clarence Francis, chairman of the board of General Foods Corporation, speaking at a press luncheon. Predicting a considerable increase in frozen foods, he attributed the growth more to specialties such as poultry and French-fried potatoes than to frozen fruit concentrates.

Precedence must be followed in Parliament. Justice Minister Garson was all set for the passage of a bill making it unnecessary for a Canadian to obtain a fiat-royal consent—before trying to sue the Crown. Mr. John Diefenbaker (PC—Lake Centre) upset the apple cart. He demonstrated that Parliament could not pass legislation abolishing an ancient right of the Crown, until Parliament had been assured by the Government that His Majesty had consented to the operation. Passage of the bill was postponed. Next day, Mr. Garson rose in his place and obediently recited an ancient formula to the effect that His Majesty had been made aware of the nature of the legislation and the loss of his prerogative, and had given his consent. The measure passed and went to the Senate.

In England not a few villages look upon anyone born a mile or two outside its circumference as "foreigners". Mr. B. C. Kivoll in a BBC programme illustrated this as follows: "My keenness to explore a certain village and meet as many of the people as possible led me to spend part of my holiday as a village postman. Believe me, there is no better way to see how people live, what they do, and what they talk about. For the postman is always welcome, and no one is ever too busy to have a word with him. As a servant of His Majesty's Government — Department of Posts and Telegraphs — I nipped about the village, peering into people's homes and greeted by friendly voices on every side. I drank their tea, sheltered in their porches, laughed at their squabbles and enjoyed their friendship. Many people who had lived in the village for twelve years or more were still strangers, but by this little wangle I was on the inside looking out! I found that people soon lost the frigid reserve they normally keep for foreigners—and the word foreigners means anyone born outside the strict bounds of the village itself."

Be Prepared THE GUARDIAN OF THE GULF LOCAL CITIZEN VICTIM OF DROWNING TRAGEDY Not going to be ME if I can help it! OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TO SWIM

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.

TWO STRIKING EXAMPLES

Sir, — Less than three years ago, I was shocked to read of more than 400 church leaders in Korea being "liquidated". These included two young men, sons of an Episcopal native Korean minister. They were active workers in the Christian movement in the schools, were captured by a band of young Communists, both shot by one individual. The American army being in control, they arrested this youth and passed sentence of death on him. At this, the father of those murdered boys begged for his life. He said: "No amount of punishment will bring back my two sons. So what is to be gained? Better let us take responsibility for him and make a Christian of him, so that he can do the work in the world that my boys have left undone."

The military authorities granted Son Yong Won's request, releasing this murderer on parole and putting him into Pastor Son's keeping. The contrast shown between the Communist spirit and the Christian spirit has a splendid did effect on the community, but especially on the family of this young man.

We now get the sequel to this incident from Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, as given in a letter from a Methodist missionary in Pusan. "When the Communists came last summer they provoked Pastor Son in every possible way. A delegation of three waited on him, arguing and quizzing for several hours. When they found him rock-like in his convictions, they pumped a volley of bullets into his body and left him. Thus do Communists treat those who turn the other cheek."

We see a similarity between those two ways of life. For instance a Communist gives full and undivided loyalty to the party. The interests of his party comes in before that of parents, wife or family. The party and the State is of more importance than even his own life. Christ said this before Stalin did — "whoever comes to me and hate not his father, mother, brethren and family and his own life also, he can not be my disciple also." "He that saveth his own life shall lose it. He that loseth it for my sake shall save it unto Life Eternal." It is said that there are scores of others just as faithful and forgiving as Son Yong Won in that unfortunate country. So I would say to all who support the missionary work—Rest assured that you will reap a rich harvest from your dollars. I am, Sir, etc. J. A. MacKENZIE, Kensington.

SCHOOL PRIZES UNFAIR

Sir, — I have all respect and appreciation of the excellent work and untiring effort of the teachers of our children in the public schools; yet, the following matter should, in my opinion, be brought to their attention. At the end of the school year approaches, a problem regarding the practice of awarding prizes to school pupils raises it's unpleasant head. Last year, on closing day (traditionally such a happy day to all school children) my six-year-old came quietly home and then suddenly broke into a cloudburst of tears. At length I learned the cause: those with highest average, perfect attendance, best deportment, etc., had each received a little necklace or paint-book or some other "prize" so appealing to childish eyes. I do not think my motive was "sour grapes," but immediately my sense of fairness was very much offended. How many other children of tender years were leaving the school on this closing day with an ache of jealousy or envy towards the few top-rankers, and with their belief in the absolute fairness of the teacher considerably shaken? I certainly hadn't counted on meeting this outmoded practice in the education of my children. It was prevalent in my early school years in a New Brunswick town school, but has long since been discontinued there. I naturally supposed that enlightenment in the field of child psychology had proven this practice to be detrimental to the personalities of the children, and that by now it would

The Age-Old Story

Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God, in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath; there is none else.

The Poet's Corner

FROM THE WANDERERS

We sang together on the wide sea, Like men at peace on a peaceful shore; Each sail was loosed to the wind so free. Each helm made sure by the twilight star, And in a sleep as calm as death, We, the voyagers from afar, Lay stretch'd along, each weary crew. In a circle round its wondrous tent Whence gleam'd soft light and cur'd rich scent, And with light and perfume, music too: So the stars wheel'd round, and the darkness past, And at morn we started beside the mast, And still each ship was sailing fast!

Old Charlottetown

SPARTAN PUNISHMENT

The punishment of juvenile delinquents did not err on the side of leniency in the early days in this Province, as appears from the following excerpt from the Prince Edward Island Register of July 27, 1830: "On Wednesday, the boys, White and Stowe, underwent the concluding part of their punishment for theft, in front of the Market House, where each received thirty-nine lashes on the bare back—the same quantum of punishment having been administered to them on each of the two previous market days. They were thereupon discharged, in terms of their sentence. After the first day's castigation, we understand, some compassionate but inconsiderate individuals petitioned the Lieutenant Governor for a remission of the remainder of the sentence, which was, we think, very judiciously refused."

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Notes By The Way Reinder have been successfully used to pull light artillery and machine-guns across snow-covered northern Norway in defence exercises. No doubt, this will get Santa Claus included on the Moscow list of war-mongers.—Sault Daily Star. The "King" of "a la King" turns out to be the name of an imaginative chef. It only remains to learn the identity of Mode, who dropped the ice cream on the pie.—The Winnipeg Tribune. To walk down one of those modest Mayfair streets in which laborers ply their trade has become more frightening than to turn the corner and come in sight of the front door of an old-fashioned dentist. Little can be seen from the outside, for opaque glass generally covers the windows and only tall men can, without standing on tiptoe, catch a glimpse of rolls of cloth waiting to be cut—for how much?—into suits. For how much? That is the question which, if it were answered by price cards, legible from the pavement, would send many wavering customers naked—or at least shabby—away. Once inside, with the tempting stuff between his fingers and warnings in his ears that it will be up 50 percent tomorrow, the waverer allows himself to be persuaded to step that way—and the relentless mirrors encircle him, reflecting baggy trousers and shiny soles. If he is strong-minded and buoyed up by the thought that he is, at all points of compass stock size, he may go elsewhere and try his luck off the peg, but, even then, the cheque he has to write would cause the ghost of that old dandy to raise phantom eyebrows and take a pinch of impalpable snuff.—The Times (London). Vast as are our timber resources and our present capacity to produce newsprint, those resources cannot stand the tremendous drain unless the Government ensures that owners of timber rights and mills are forced to carry out reforestation plans as fast as timber is cut. We must think of tomorrow as well as today, and think of the world's need of newsprint tomorrow as well as Canada's need. It would be a dreadful and stupid neglect on Canada's part to overlook the vital importance of reforestation. And it will be remembered that recent findings of a committee of the Ontario Legislature in respect to depleted timber resources were most discouraging. Those findings serve as a warning. Canada expects this year to increase her newsprint production by 171,000 tons. Well and good. But if her timber heritage is to be preserved, that timber must be replaced as it is cut. With new young growth.—Brockville Recorder and Times. Cultural growth cannot be compelled, but it can be encouraged. We cannot, by means of scholarships and hands, create philosophers and artists. But less by expenditure of money than by a change in our intellectual climate we can encourage the growth of learning, letters and the arts. There was a time, in Canada's pioneer days, when learning was deeply respected and sought after in this country; the history of Peterborough tells us that the first thing the Irish settlers wanted, when they had provided themselves with shelter, was a school for their children. But this love of learning and respect for learning have not persisted. We have discovered that it is possible to make a good living in this bounteous country without much learning, and to enjoy some of the sweets of life without bothering our heads about arts and letters. It is time for Canada to move on, recognizing that physical luxuries alone are not sufficient to make a great nation. The cheque report is a guidebook to show us the way.—Peterborough Examiner.

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