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No Cause For Surprise

American State Department officials are said to be "surprised and shocked" by Egypt's stated intention to take over administration of the trouble-ridden Gaza Strip.

Anyone at all who has followed, even in a casual way, the sequence of events can see that the Egyptian announcement was the inevitable result of United States' diplomatic maneuvering in Middle East affairs.

At this moment it is not clear just what Nasser's plans are; but it is quite clear that his decision will be based on his own judgment and not on any pressure from the U.S. State Department.

Careful Scrutiny

The Federal Government is showing concern amounting almost to uneasiness over the common market agreement now being put into form by a number of West European Governments.

Canadian Government officials—and U.S. officials, too—may as well reconcile themselves to the fact that the proposed economic union of Europe is intended to benefit the participating nations, regardless of the effects it may have on Canadian or American exports.

Surely, Mr. St. Laurent does not expect his "careful and critical scrutiny" to be taken very seriously by the British and French.

that would come pouring out of Ottawa should a new preferential trade agreement between Canada and, say, the United States be criticized in London or Paris.

Britain and France are good customers of Canada. They probably will be good customers after the free trade agreement has gone into effect.

The Missing Medals

The Canada Medal for which no worthy recipient has been found since it was established more than a decade ago is again in the news.

According to the Prime Minister, of the fourteen special medals which were struck in 1944, two are missing and presumed lost. The presumption is that, however, and nothing more; for there are reports that the late Mr. Mackenzie King kept one of them for himself and sent the other to his comrade-in-arms, Mr. Winston Churchill.

St. Patrick's Day

This St. Patrick's Day, which falls on Sunday, marks the 132nd anniversary of the establishment of the Benevolent Irish Society in Charlottetown.

The shamrock is still the breathing springtime symbol of the shepherd and saint whose illustrious example has been so fruitful in good works in science, art, literature and religion throughout the centuries.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A professor of obstetrics says that the first ten minutes of a baby's life are the most important. Yes, because if these ten minutes are not saved, there won't be any more to count on, that's sure.

A report from the International Wheat Council shows that the United States leads all exporting countries, having as customers 32 of the 42 importing nations which participate in the International Wheat Agreement.

Most people would say that the more factories and office buildings which are built this year the better it will be for the employment and general economic situation.



HATS OFF TO CONSIDERATE DRIVERS!

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.

DEPLORABLE SITUATION

Sir:—During the past few weeks much has been said in criticism of the system of education on P.E.I. but practically nothing constructive has been done to improve the educational programme.

Let's face the facts; all these require detailed study and improvement. Only a Royal Commission could thoroughly deal with such matters.

Second: Could such a committee act objectively without political interference? An improved system of education will require money. Is this governmental committee prepared to suggest tax increases to cover the cost of the needed improvements without fear of antagonizing the electorate?

TH. HALL, B.Sc., B.Ed. L.R. MOASE, B.A. H.E.J. FOWER, B.A., B.Ed. J. WEEKS MURPHY. ETTA MACDONALD, B.A. High School Teachers, Kensington

DAYLIGHT SAVING

Sir:—A statement, that Newfoundland is asking for double daylight saving time in the papers recently. Are we such a backward Province that we can't even have daylight time? We all look forward to our lovely summers in the "Garden of the Gulf" — we certainly don't to the type of winter we have been having — why can't we be allowed to enjoy them. Must the majority be made to suffer for the stubborn minority? A human family advancing phys-

THE TEACHER QUESTION

Sir:—I would like through your courtesy to use a column in your paper to ask the young men and women of this Province a simple question.

Are you career conscious? If so, give careful consideration to the teaching profession on P.E.I. Qualifications required: No significance attached. Fail subjects in Grade XI if you wish, you're needed anyway.

Professional advancements: Entirely up to you. Make a change each year. Don't be responsible for your inadequacies by signing on a second year in the same school.

Salary: Let's make a couple of comparisons. Ask the airport teachers to compare their present salaries to what they previously made in Provincial Schools.

Future Educational Policy: The continued apathy which has so long prevailed. Write any municipality in rest of Canada and you'll be answered with page after page of definite policy.

I am, Sir, etc. OBSERVER

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Sir:—You are to be commended for your excellent and thought-provoking editorial of March 8th: "Beyond the Mountains." Truly every scientific invention from the stone age through the Industrial Revolution of a century and a half ago has been based on the same principle, as you say, "to raise the living standards of all people" to ideal heights.

I wished, Sir, that you had gone a step farther and discussed WHY the promises have not been fulfilled in history, and had made some suggestions as to how the causes might be removed.

Electronic Farming

(St. Thomas Times - Journal). The agriculture industry is becoming more modern but also a trifle more complicated for old time farmers.

Artificial soil may be coming faster than you think. The latest device for soil research is the electron beam that can sterilize soil, presumably without changing its chemical or nutritional qualities.

Artificially, morally and spiritually, seems to have been the objective of their Creator. What has been frustrating his plan? Will Rogers, when asked what was wrong with the world, thoughtfully replied: "I guess it must be the people."

I am, Sir, etc. W.H.Y. CARLTON, P.E.I.

ST. PATRICK Sir:—St. Patrick's memory has been cherished by all Irishmen as well as practically all Christians of Great Britain and America.

A new stone church, built in 1832, commemorates the 1500th anniversary of his first missionary work there.

It is also written that the Anglican Cathedral of St. Patrick was built on the site where he established his headquarters in the year 444, which was about 150 years before Augustine the First came to Canterbury.

Early history says that he was born in or about the year 387, and it is generally understood that his missionary work lasted for about thirty years.

The tribe of Dan had, many years before, colonized and had been trading for his lands, Ireland, as early as the 12th century, B.C., and, no doubt, a certain amount of preparation for that "Great World Event—The Birth of Christ"—and that which was to follow (Christianity) was being made during those 400 years before St. Patrick's missionary or evangelical work began.

Then again, it goes without saying, that the Prophet Jeremiah and Tea Tephi, the daughter of King Zedekiah, soon after their arrival at Carrickfergus on the N.E. coast of Ireland, would not be idle in proclaiming the Gospel of the Old Testament as well as that of the new, which was to follow in due course.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundenen, M.D.

TOO MUCH WEIGHT OFTEN CAUSES SERIOUS TROUBLE. How long do you think you could walk around with a 20-pound bag of cement on your shoulder? Or how about a 30, 40, or 50 pound sack?

You'd get pretty tired, wouldn't you? What's more, your heart would get tired, too. The extra work means an extra strain on this vital organ.

Fortunately, few of us have to go through life lugging cement. But many of us, an estimated 30,000,000 Americans, do carry more weight than we should — around the middle.

EXCESS WEIGHT This question of excess weight is primarily a problem of middle age. If you are going to put on extra weight, it's better to do it in the 30s or early 40s.

During the adolescent period, you were very active physically. The same holds true for your early 20's. Because you need a lot of energy, some are very active, you develop good habits during these early years which satisfy requirements for this constant drive.

But when you get married, things change. You settle down, spend more time at home, reading and watching television. Yet your food habits remain just about the same. Gradually, you begin putting on weight.

QUESTION AND ANSWER M.B.: Will using an electric blanket have any effect on one's health? Answer: There is no evidence that any effect on health can be produced by an electric blanket.

The Age Old Story The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all, Amen.

The Poet's Corner TO HIS SPIRIT Think not to find me, should you come. With eyes averted from your own. Nor think to find me stricken dumb. With carven lips and a smile of stone.

By sunlight in the rippling moon Freely I keep. Our blinded field of daisies melts beneath a moon Of ripe midsummer; I shall go Across its drift and listen for Your footsteps following the slow Untroubled pace I set. The core Of joy that was, is still his joy That breaks the heart, that knows no fears.

Yet beats unceasing to destroy The careful structure of the years. I know the old enchanted ring. Of young wild cherries green as beryl. I know the feathered throats that sing. Aloud above the soul's sweet perch. The question only should I keep. The trust, if you will meet me there: Deeply I breast the fields of sleep. To wait and wonder if you dare. —From "Birch Fires," Lenore A. Pratt.

OUR YESTERDAYS From the Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 16, 1932)

At a meeting of the Summerside Town Council last night a motion was passed to petition the Government to allow the Town Council to issue debentures for \$25,000 for school purposes, interest not to exceed 5 per cent. These above amounts are to be in addition to the general borrowing power.

Mr. George Fillier, Manager of the Bank of Montreal at Charlottetown, has been promoted to the management of the branch at Moncton, N.B. Mr. Fillier may be succeeded here by Mr. R. B. Finlayson, Manager of the branch at Pembroke, Ontario.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 16, 1947) The advantages to the whole livestock and poultry industries of the Maritime Provinces from having an elevator at Charlottetown to receive feed wheat direct from Port Churchill by ship were dealt with in an informative speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday by Mr. E. B. Knight, C.C.F. member for Saskatoon City.

Fire early last night destroyed a combined office and cookhouse at Alberton South, the property of a Fishermen's Co-operative. Fishermen were assisted by the Alberton Fire Department in saving the lobster factory, located a few yards from the blazing two-storey building. Besides the loss of the buildings and equipment, over \$1,000 worth of nets and several marine engines were lost in the fire.

Cathedral in Downpatrick, County Down, is believed to be his burial place. And only three miles distant at a place called Saul is said to be the place where he made his first convert. I am, Sir, etc. G. A. CUDMORE Charlottetown

NOTES BY THE WAY

Disarmament, as supported by the leading statesmen to day, seems to mean getting together to ban whatever weapons the other fellow has.—Hamilton Spectator

A student of meteorology says that weather is changing so that we may someday be in the banana belt. Imagine advertising the balmy beaches of Lake Huron to frigid Floridians.—Sarnia Observer

Florida reports such a rush of Winter tourists that some of them are sleeping in their cars, others in nice cool jail cells. A man gives up his comfortable northern home for that!—Ottawa Journal

Sandy McGregor and Frank Kuiaek (pronounced "Kwee-ack") set out to cruise an area in Brant Township. After a time they separated, deciding to meet later. When Frank was partly through a thick swamp he heard his name called. Thinking it was his companion he answered, "I'm in here Sandy," and headed in the direction of the sound. Coming out in the hardwood he was amazed to see a huge raven perched high on a tree top, still calling "Kwee-ack. Kwee-ack."—Lands and Forests

It won't be long until spring when the birds begin building their nests and the "No Vacancy" signs appear on the motels.—Hamilton Spectator

Some teenagers in India, who read, are imitating Marilyn Monroe's dress and hair-style. This civilization, Western branch, marches on!—Ottawa Journal

One of the reasons so many youths get in trouble on various counts such as theft of cars is that they haven't learned what older people know: you can't get away with it. They think they are smart but fail to realize that there are some smart police officers, too.—Port Arthur News-Chronic

Canada now has 217,375 Boy Scouts — 20,966 more than at the end of 1955—and a new record high in membership. As of December 30, 1956, there were 125,325 Wolf Cubs, 65,880 Boy Scouts, 434 Lone Scouts, 1,396 Sea Cubs, 378 Rover Scouts, 172 Rover Sea Scouts and 20,623 adult Leaders. These figures show an increase in all branches except the Lone Scouts which is lower than the 1955 total by 12.—News of Scouting

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