

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 26, 1952

Hilaly Pasha's Dilemma

Evacuation by the British of certain areas adjacent to the Canal Zone in Egypt, occupied by British forces during the disturbances of January, suggest that while the man and the methods may have changed in Cairo, the objectives of the Egyptian Government have not. First among those objectives under Hilaly Pasha, as under his predecessor as Premier, Maher Pasha, is settlement of "the national question", by which is meant British withdrawal and the political unification of the Nile Valley. Second in order of precedence is what both Premiers have described as "a purging of the worst elements in Egyptian public life", by which, of course, is meant the fanatical Wafdists.

Hilaly Pasha's predecessor Aly Maher Pasha believed that internal peace was possible in Egypt only with the acquiescence of the Wafdists, who hold a majority of the seats in Parliament. He proposed to secure Wafdist acquiescence by the King's signature on the contentious Origin of Fortunes Act, under which anyone may be required summarily to reveal the source of capital acquired over the last ten years, and by the knowledge that, from the Wafdist viewpoint, any successor would be less tolerant of them.

The resignation of Aly Maher Pasha was occasioned by the disagreement of his cabinet colleagues, many of whom wanted to seize upon the January 26 riots as an opportunity to exploit the black record of the Wafdist party and break it for all time.

His successor, Hilaly Pasha, has already manifested a determination to pull no punches so far as the Wafdists are concerned. He has already issued the Public Prosecutor's Report on the riots, which deeply implicates a number of high officials including the Wafd Minister of the Interior Serag el Din. He is now proceeding to "the national question", meaning the matter of British evacuation.

Whether he will succeed, or whether Egypt will be torn by fresh outbreaks of violence depends in the first instance upon his "success" in the "negotiations" with the British, and secondly in the loyalty of the Egyptian army, which is sadly behind the times both in terms of training and equipment.

Overtaxed Married Couples

Marriage is a holy estate but somewhat discriminated against by the Income Tax Act. A husband must pay tax on his wife's income if it is between \$250 and \$1,000 but he is not permitted any deductions from it which the wife would be allowed if she had to pay tax herself. If a wife works for her husband's business they pay more taxes than if she works for someone else. A husband and wife may go into business partnership but the tax department has power to disregard the partnership and charge the entire business profits to the husband.

These are a few of the anomalies which are pointed out in a brief presented jointly by the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants to the Ministers of Finance and National Revenue. Some of the points raised may seem somewhat remote to many taxpayers, as the various references to corporation tax, but others strike home at the individual.

One inequity in particular seems unjust. The brief points out that instead of taxing the annual income from an annuity delivered to an employee on retirement, the department claims that the whole capital value of the annuity is taxable in the year in which the employee retires from his job. The rate, it is true, is much lower than if it were ordinary income, but it is still very much higher than the tax would be on the retirement income.

New Price Index

In selecting the 225 items to be included in the new Cost of Living index the Bureau of Statistics is said to have examined the household budgets of families in 27 cities. These families ranged in size from the childless couple to the family with four children, and with annual incomes between \$1,650 and \$4,050.

To avoid confusion, particularly regarding wage adjustments which are tied to the index figure, both the old "Cost-of-Living Index" and the new "Consumer Price Index", as it is to be called, will be published

side by side for several months.

There have been two main complaints made against the old index: First, that during the period of rapidly rising prices it did not properly reflect these increases; and second, that during the last few months it has failed to take proper note of actual price reductions, through bargain sales and excessive trade-in allowances. It remains to be seen whether the new index will remove whatever basis existed for these complaints.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Legislature resumes—still on Address debate.

A war-time meat board is suggested to take the surplus meat off the market. It is interesting to learn there is such a surplus.

The Rotary Club bars politics from its discussions, but made an exception in recommending that the Premier and Mayor should go to Ottawa to find out what is holding up Federal public work in Charlottetown.

At the Royal Dublin Society's sales last week, the reserve Shorthorn Champion, Prumplestown Golden Wedding, bred by Mr. C. M. Baxter, of County Down, was bought for 700 guineas (\$2,058), by Mr. John Goetz of Midway, Ontario.

The annual "back to work" campaign used to be chiefly for the benefit of the labouring man, but in recent years it has been the means of getting work done in the early Spring which would not be done at all if left until the peak periods of demand for workers.

Sydney, Australia, is reported to have had a butter famine for the past six months due to falling production. If it continues, New Zealand may well have all it can do to supply its neighbouring Dominion without making butter available to this country.

An experimental herd of Yorkshire hogs is thriving on the equivalent of ordinary laundry detergent at Michigan State College agricultural experiment station. Added in small amounts to their standard diet, the chemical, an ethmoid product of treated animal fat, has added 6 extra pounds per porker a month.

South African schoolmasters are reported to be abandoning the giving of "lines" as a punishment in favour of various tasks considered useful to the pupils. Neither practice has much vogue here but probably the first is the less harmful. It merely induces in the child a dislike of writing lines.

Critics of the dairy industry who have complained that it has not taken steps to supply the demand for butter can hardly find fault with its members in this Province. Last year's record production indicates not only a good year for pasture but also the dairymen's unceasing efforts to maintain production.

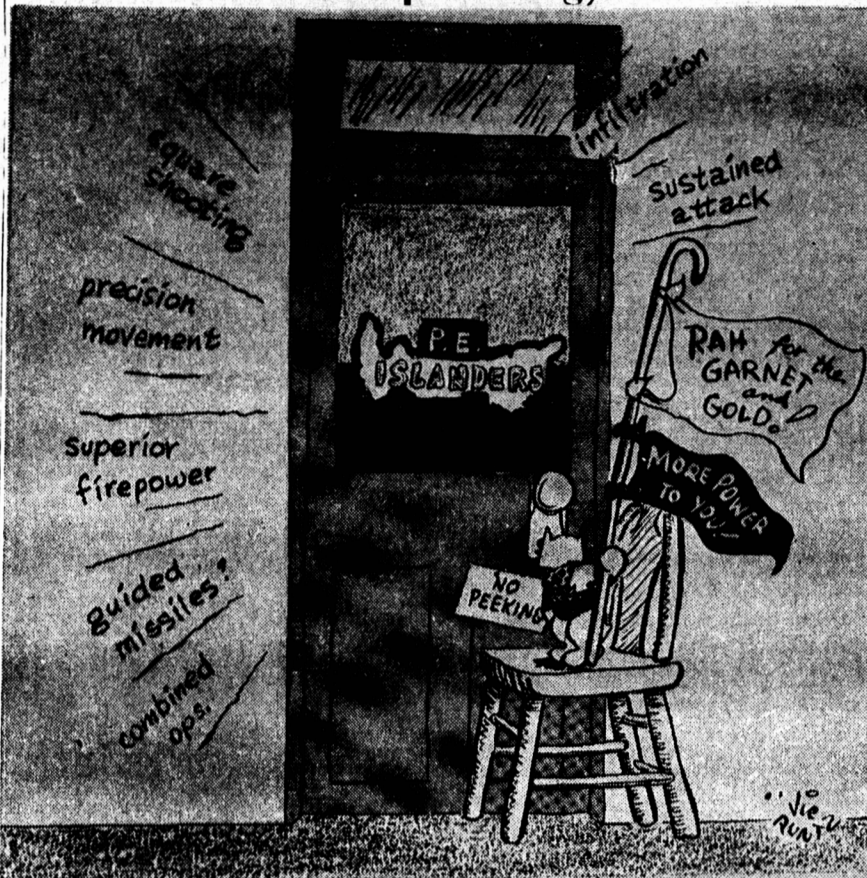
In a recent United States airlift exercise 2,000 fully equipped infantrymen from a base a thousand miles distant were landed in a 14-hour period at a Texas airport. With that sort of mobility it is clear that the only effective way of meeting invasion is in the air. It would be impossible to garrison all vulnerable points against such a concerted drive.

Communist Czechoslovakia's inclination to accept delivery of a steel mill in exchange for the imprisoned American newspaperman, Mr. William N. Oatis, is on a par with the conduct of other Communist countries both east and west. The United States, however, shows no signs of being prepared to ransom any more American citizens who fall into such hands.

Sir Gerald Du Maurier, English actor-manager, was born this date 1873. He made his stage debut at the Garrick Theatre, 1894, and was in Barrie's "The Admirable Crichton", 1902. He was the original Captain Hook in "Peter Pan", 1904. Other successes included, "Raffles", "Bull-dog Drummond" and such films as "Escape" and "Catherine the Great."

According to the Montreal Gazette, although there's no sign of a Federal Liberal leadership convention, Finance Minister Hon. Douglas Abbott is a strong contender. Rated as a dark horse at the moment is Hon. Walter Harris, Minister of Resources and Immigration. Although little known to the country at large, Mr. Harris is in the good graces of men strong in the councils of the party. Don't be surprised at a selling campaign to make him better known. The fortunes of a third possibility, External Affairs Minister Hon. L. B. Pearson appear to be in a decline right now.

Last Lap Strategy



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

BARRACK ACCOMMODATION From the despatches of Robert Hodgson, Esq., Administrator of the Government of Prince Edward Island, to Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1865:

15th August: In compliance with the requisition of His Excellency Sir Richard Graves Macdonnell, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, two Companies of the 16th Regiment, consisting of 8 officers and 130 men under a Field Officer, were landed in Charlottetown from the steamer Merlin in the morning of the 6th August, instant. The Military Barracks, wooden buildings erected in Charlottetown upwards of half a century ago, and occupied by Her Majesty's troops until 1864—have been sold, together with the site they occupied, under the authority of the local Act 26th Victoria, Cap. VIII. No buildings suitable for the accommodation of troops being available, the Detachment pitched their tents in a field in the vicinity of Charlottetown. . . .

"Knowing that the duty of providing Barrack accommodation for soldiers sent to the Island devolves upon the local government, and that the Detachment now here should not remain under canvas after the middle of October, on Monday last I submitted the subject of Barrack accommodation for the consideration of my Executive Council, and I have now the honour to report that my government have unanimously resolved at once to purchase a few acres of land in a healthy position near the capital, and thereon erect Barracks capable of accommodating 150 men and the requisite proportion of officers. . . .

"With a view to the prevention of desertion, the Government has resolved to offer £8 sterling, to be paid from the public treasury of the Colony, as a reward for the apprehension of any deserter, and also to cause the exercise of the utmost vigilance on the part of magistrates and constables, in order to check, and if possible entirely prevent the loss which Detachments have so often suffered in this Colony from desertion. . . .

"30th August: A contract was yesterday entered into for the erection of suitable Barracks, adapted for the accommodation of two Companies (under Major Thomas Tydd). The cost of the buildings already contracted for will exceed £3,500 currency. To this sum must be added £400 paid for the land on which they are being built. This site is healthy, and comprises an area of upwards of 3 3/4 acres. Several hundred pounds in addition will be required to erect fences, offices, etc. The entire cost about to be incurred by the Colony in providing accommodation for troops will be little short of £4,000. The Barracks, by the terms of the contract, are to be ready for occupation on or before the 15th October next."

A Good Conceit

(Montreal Gazette) A professor in England astonished his class one day by saying: "The trouble with you young men these days is that you're not conceited enough!" After the first astonishment had died down, he went on to explain what he meant. A good conceit, he said, helps a man to make something of himself, to take his chances in the world, and to recover from the shocks of disappointment. Unless there is a healthy self-conceit, he is likely to go down under the poor opinion other people always have of a man until he proves himself. The trouble today is this English professor went on, is that too many people feel the world is too much for them, or that they are no match for the world. They make a fetish of mediocrity and they call it humility: they crawl into a shell and they say they are well-adjusted to their environment. Perhaps that professor was very largely right. No doubt he

The Age-Old Story

The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them? . . . For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. . . . Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

How Far Can We Go?

(Royal Bank Monthly) Every one of us must live within his own resources of strength, physically and mentally. One trouble in today's world is that even keen executives and professional men fail to do so. They become agitated if their children have difficulty in breathing, indulge riotously in evening dates, carry a heavy load of school subjects, or become moody. But these same executives will drive themselves to the point of exhaustion in work, play or social activities. . . .

If a man feels always tired, or lives more easily than his fellow-workers, he should consult a proper professional man. If there's something organically wrong, then look to his mind: is there something out of balance there? Hundreds of breakdowns are due to preoccupation with efficiency and getting things done. And, sadly enough, the longer an executive is right and the higher he climbs, the greater becomes the pressure of having to continue to be right and to climb higher. The least hint of failure is enough to set a breakdown in motion. . . .

The person who is endowed with a healthy body, to the continuing ill-being of which he gives reasonable attention, and with an understanding family, will carry his load well. . . .

"Rest" is not enough. The sort of repose that contributes to mental health does not depend altogether on external conditions, but on sound adjustment to tasks, opportunities, pleasures and the general order of a man's life. . . .

The value of a hobby is beyond question. Many a man finds the mere fact of having a piece of wood in a vase, or a stamp collection in a book, or flowers in his garden—something that is his by creation or by organization—has given him an aid to mental poise that is of priceless value. . . .

In seeking to preserve our mental health we should not plan in fear and review with regret. It is better to plan carefully, to perform joyfully; to review, critically but calmly, and then go on to new experiences with buoyant anticipation. . . .

None of us is likely to pass through life without experiencing periods of lowered mental health. The hazards are different at different ages, but if we take our bearings in each age bracket and heed the signs, we can assure ourselves of the topmost satisfaction and happiness that are available to us. . . .

The Poet's Corner

FROM "ART" Poet, let passion sleep Till with the cosmic rhyme You keep Eternal tone and time. By rule of hour and flower, By strength of stern restraint And power To fail and not to faint. The task is hard to learn While all the songs of Spring Return Along the blood and sing. Yet hear — from her deep skies, How Art, for all your pain, Still cries: Ye must be born again! —Alfred Noyes

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.

IS ALCOHOL HERE TO STAY?

Sir. — Most people who think about the question believe that alcohol is here to stay. No law, no court, no sermon, no prison can remove the will to drink. Ever since the days of Noah men have been drinking and getting drunk, and down to the end of time men will brew and get drunk, and no power in heaven or earth can stop them. So why make a fuss? Why bother? Increase the outlets, they say. Let men get drunk easily and there will be less drinking. It is true drink is here to stay, so is theft, so are other forms of evil, so long as sin remains in human nature. . . .

But are we to admit that this habit that is now so widespread and wastes so much of human resources and the bodies and souls of men is to be allowed to continue in spite of God and all good men and women? If this is so, then let us cease repeating the Lord's Prayer. Instead let us say: "Thy Kingdom O Alcohol! is an everlasting kingdom. Do thou continue to have dominion over the souls of men and let all thine enemies be scattered." If this is God's will and the desire of all good men, why not this prayer? No, we will not say this prayer, for every Christian knows this is not the will of God and, whatever the prospects, God's will will one day be done. "My word," he says, "shall not return to me void." Some day God's enlightened people will unite and rise up and destroy this evil business. . . .

The southern States of the American Republic said: "Slavery is here to stay, and we shall see that it does stay", but Christian men and women rose up in their wrath, and slavery did not stay. The brother tried hard to establish itself in American society but clean men and women rose up and said: "Our society shall not be so defiled" and a law of prohibition was enacted and except for the law, obscene literature would now be flooding this country and who will maintain that this drink evil that accounts daily for so much waste and damage to the bodies and souls of men and women, is here to stay? If there is a God who rules, surely it will not stay. An ancient seer declared: "I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree, yet he passed away and he was not, yea I sought him but he could not be found." This is the faith of all good men and women and a faith that shall be justified in regard to the drink evil. . . .

I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN. Stanley Bridge.

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Notes By The Way

Edward Madden, who in his pristine days gave us "The Light of the Silvery Moon" and "Moonlight Bay" died in his 75th year in Hollywood with the echoes of his old songs chiming in his heart. The song writers in each age leave us the richer for their presence. Melody, harmony and a rippling tune ease the strain and pleasure the spirit. We exist in a world of hard fact, and we deal with our problems by intellectual skill and mental cunning, so that it is a relief to be able to hum a catchy tune and open the door to a little bit of sentiment. — London Free Press.

Only an acute military urgency will put hundreds of thousands of people into the North in any near future: to man army and air force stations and to operate factories removed, as in Russia, from central industrial targets. The fullness of time, not a government policy, will come when Canadians need its room or its resources. And in that time, the settlers will have to forego the ridiculous Southern Canadian apling of European and American habits and dress (wool suits in hot Summer; thin stockings and fedora hats in cold Winters). The greatest hindrance to northern colonization may be Canadians' refusal to live as if they were northerners. — Peterborough Examiner.

If a great many pupils leave school too early, let us find in the first place the reason in the fact that parents do not sufficiently understand the importance of education. That is as true in the country as in the city. If they understood better the value of learning they would keep their sons and daughters longer at school. On the other hand, the children themselves do not appreciate school sufficiently. When they live among family surroundings where learning is not held in honor, how do you expect them to be interested in their studies? They then have only one aim: make money as quickly as may be. Some accept the first position offered; others take any

sort of calling at all. It is not the school that has failed them. These youngsters have not known how to take advantage of the facilities offered them because, in the majority of cases, the family has not done its duty. — Le Droit, Ottawa.

Smiling is splendid. It is also contagious. But smiles mean a whole lot more when they are found on the faces of those who face up with the serious side of life in all sincerity . . . and still have the courage and faith to smile. For, though the picture may appear pretty grim at the time, those who have faith have every reason to register a smile against their concentrations on the serious problems of the day. Smiling is a good habit. The old adage, laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep alone, is based on truth. No one wants to know your troubles, no matter how solitously they may inquire about them. Rather, a broad grin and a cheery remark is the answer most welcome. — Owen Sound Sun-Times.

Photographers of another day had this in common—both particular and picturesque — that they urged or even forced their clients to smile in front of the lens. They held to it with iron strength that a serious or grave countenance did not make a "handsome portrait" as the saying was. They were wrong about that in a number of cases. Certain persons, naturally serious, for whom a smile is exceptional, do not look like themselves when represented with a countenance overspread with hilarity by order. That is what explains the artificiality and unreality of certain portraits of days gone by, still hanging on the walls of our houses. The smile is the natural reflection of the soul and not a thing made from nothing by order of the will. . . . But the Americans, never in doubt about anything, are not embarrassed by such considerations. For them the smile can be manufactured as a serial, somewhat like automobiles or pots of jam. — Le Soleil, Quebec.

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