

Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by The Thomson Company Limited.
 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
 Editor and Manager, Ian A. Burnett.
 Associate Editor, Frank Walker
 Branch office at Summerside, Montserrat and Alberton. Author used as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.
 By Carrier: Charlottetown, Summerside \$13.00 per annum. Elsewhere in P. E. I. \$9.00. Other Provinces and U. S. A. \$12.00 per annum.
 "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

THURSDAY, DEC. 9, 1954

Human Rights Day

On December 10, 1948 the United Nations General Assembly at Paris adopted and proclaimed a universal declaration of human rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society should strive by teaching and education to promote respect for those rights and freedoms and strive to secure their universal recognition and observance.

The anniversary is observed as "Human Rights Day" and, although the two draft covenants which attempt to define the rights broadly described in the declaration are still to be approved, the declaration itself is a milestone of civilization.

The declaration affirms the faith of mankind in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of man and woman as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world. Its thirty articles embrace the essential personal, social, economic, and political freedom of the individual.

The adoption of the declaration bridged the chasm between the interest of the United Nations in the world of national states and the more fundamental interests of individuals everywhere. Although it is still a "Parliament of Nations" it is also and seems destined to become more and more a "Parliament of Man."

It is trite but true to recall that the world today is a neighbourhood, smaller in terms of travel time than many individual countries of a century ago. We can no longer go our own way, satisfied if conditions immediately around us are bearable. President Lincoln's declaration that a nation cannot exist half slave and half free now applies on a global scale.

Bells In The Assembly

What to do with a particularly "long-winded" orator who insists on talking long after he has made any worthwhile contribution to a debate has presented a weighty problem to the presiding officer of many a legislative assembly. Thus far, in most democratic countries, no real solution has been found, mainly because the right of free speech in almost all circumstances is considered far more important than the feelings of wearied and long-suffering listeners to a dull and repetitive harangue. Down in the Argentine Republic, however, they have found a way to make a man sit down. Right over the chair occupied by the President of the Chamber—an office equivalent to that of our Mr. Speaker—there are ten fire-alarm bells which the President can set clanging by pressing a button on his desk. This, of course, drowns out the voice of the most blatant speechifier. Reports say that the bells are in use a good part of the time; they are especially useful when a free-for-all takes place on the Chamber floor, a not infrequent happening. Now and then, of course, the device is used for less worthy purposes, as, for instance, when the government side of the House wants to silence the criticism of the opposition.

We do not suggest for one moment that the technique should be adopted in our Federal and Provincial parliaments. There is an intriguing air about it, nevertheless. Perhaps a very mild variation of it might be tried in a couple of legislatures, just as an experiment.

Taxes And Expenditures

The Financial Post takes issue with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in its brief, recently presented at Ottawa, complaining that both personal and corporate income taxes are "too high for a developing country." "We are all against taxes, as we're all against sin," says The Post; "but the Chamber of Commerce doesn't make much of a contribution to the formulation of national policy. The Chamber also says that 'there should be no relaxation in Canada's defense program.' It says: 'The greatest danger for Canada lies in the tendency to regard adequate defense expenditures as an emergency need instead of as a permanent part of living in the twentieth century.' It supports federal expenditure on health services. It wants better airports. It wants the South Saskatchewan Dam (in a resolution which completely ignores the serious objections to that project uncovered by a Royal Commission). It wants a coastguard service, assisted passages for immigrants, more vigorous natural resources policies.

Indeed, the only suggestion the Chamber of Commerce makes for reducing government expenditure is the hoary one of

'economy in ordinary peacetime expenditures' and a careful watch on defense costs. These are both most laudable and necessary aims, but we must keep some perspective. Almost three quarters of our \$4.5 billion budget is accounted for in these four major items: Defense, Defense Production, Health and Welfare, and Veterans' Affairs. Were the economizers to go over all Ottawa's operations with the strictest possible business standards and effect prodigies of 'economizing', the effect on income tax rates would still be very small indeed.

"The only way to get any serious reduction in our major direct taxes is to get major reductions in the scope of government spending. And no one that we've yet come across is prepared to say what those major reductions should be. On the contrary it's hard to find anybody these days who isn't peddling his own pet plan for increased government spending. You can have it one way or the other, as Granny used to say, but not both."

Mexican Fishing Law

A new fishing law now under consideration by the Mexican Congress is causing the United States Government and fishing interests some concern. It seems that for many years the two countries have been unable to agree on the legal interpretation of territorial waters. Mexico has claimed sovereignty over the waters nine miles from shore, while the United States has refused to recognize Mexican jurisdiction beyond the three-mile limit. From time to time this disagreement has led to strained relations between the two countries, a situation which will not be helped by the new legislation which forbids, among other things, the transfer of fish from any vessel, not of Mexican registry, within the nine mile area. In the past, because of storms and other factors, this has been the standard practice for American ships in the shrimp fishing season. Another provision of the new law which American ship owners are not going to like is that which says that foreigners wishing to fish commercially in Mexican waters must apply for licenses, which will be granted only if the applicants agree not to seek the protection of their governments in any dispute that may arise. Mexican authorities will have the right to seize any vessel operating in defiance of this provision. Fines for all breaches of the law have been increased very considerably over those which have been customary in the past.

There was a time when this sort of legislation might very easily have led to serious trouble between the two countries. Now, it is safe to say, the dispute will not go beyond formal diplomatic exchange of views. While, no doubt, the change is due partly to the United States' preoccupation with myriads of more urgent problems, it indicates, too, a less touchy approach to disputes between neighbours. That is one of the healthy signs of the times among many unhealthy ones.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A squadron of the Royal Canadian Navy returns to Halifax Friday after showing the flag over some 16,000 miles in eight Mediterranean countries and in major NATO exercises in the North Atlantic.

A Winnipeg citizen who has missed only five city council meetings in eight years is being awarded a medal. That must be something of a record for a private citizen and would be admirable in a council member. All too few citizens attend council meetings even once a year.

Firms selling special brand merchandise are not necessarily manufacturers, according to a Tariff Board ruling which holds that big retail corporations handling tires bearing their own trade marks simply purchase them from the real manufacturer. The tax is, of course, on the manufacturer's price and had the ruling been otherwise it would in many cases have been on what is also the retail price.

The high cost of automobile accidents is highlighted by a statement of the Provincial examiner of drivers that there were 63 accidents in November resulting in two deaths, 27 hospitalizations and property damage exceeding \$25,000. Long hours of darkness, treacherous roads and weather conditions which tempt drivers to keep their windows closed make this time of year particularly dangerous. The approaching holiday season will add the danger of thoughtless gaiety.

Sir Anthony Van Dyck, Flemish painter, died this date 1641. He was an assistant of Rubens and his hand can be noticed in many of the works of that master. When he in turn achieved fame he tended to work only on a painting in the final stage, assistants doing the preliminary work from his drawing of the head and body and careful notes on dress, decorations and composition. He left behind a remarkable record of the English aristocracy done in the grand manner.



Possible Unforeseen Developments

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions that concern the Guardian and which do not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

WESTERN ART EXHIBIT

Sir.—A recent writer to the Public Forum states among other things that the Art Society did not request the paintings from Western Canada recently on exhibit in the City. He is apparently misinformed. Minutes of the Society reveal that its exhibition program was a carefully selected and noted upon, one of the shows ordered from the Maritime Art Association being the above mentioned Western Canada Exchange Exhibition.

I am, Sir, etc.,
 VIC RUNTZ
 President, Prince Edward Island Art Society

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

OUT OF THE PAST

"Gallias Point is only two or three hours' drive from town. There is the ferry, with the foamed white pools from the paddles, and the gleaming bosom of the Hillsborough beneath your carriage wheels; then Tea Hill where the grand panorama of the Bay spreads its jewelled sheen before you, gilt by rolling hills and far blue headlands. If you are a geologist, you will stay to look at this picture.

"The hills immediately round you, the air, rising in faintest blue on the verge of the sky, are seen the serried Coquequids, composed of ancient Saurian and Devonian rocks. The spirit of the past eternally sleeps in that scene, with misty light, and aerial blue, and autumn's cowl of gold and russet wrapping up the hills.

"We pass the little village of Poval with its flowers and its Lombardies, and sweep round along the Bay to Gallias Point. We take the shore at the extremity of this flat peninsula, and enter ourselves among the mingled brown, grey, and red rocks of the Upper Carboniferous. At the rear of Mr. Tweedie's farm, the line of ocean's battlements, scarped and buttressed, is broken, and the meadows slope gently down to a cove, where an open crescent of clean, silvery sand, and the waves, this smooth pavement of the sea we find strewn with the petrified wrecks of a long lost creation. The waves seem to have gathered up the fragments and stored them here as their peculiar treasure.

"There are sections of trunks of pine trees (Dactyloxya) like broken columns of adamant, tossed and buried in the drifting sand. Broken limbs, huge, burly knots, endless splinters of what was once clean, straight-grained wood lie everywhere beneath our feet. Noble trees these must have belonged to. There are flattened trunks two to three feet in diameter; and one fragment forty-five feet in length shows that there were trees more than twice that height. Scattered along the sands with these are little shafts of flint, one or two inches in diameter, sculptured over all their surface by marks of leaf bases, and swelling at intervals into nodes. They were the stems of knoria which bore at each node a great starchy whirl of verticillate leaves.

"Along shore, to the north of this cove, we find the same class of remains buried in the solid structure of the grey and brown sandstone rocks. There are also trunks of tree ferns, marked by the large cicatrices of their fallen leaves, lesser calamites, remains of the great 'calamites gigas' which in its perfect state, rose a majestic reed thirty feet above the soil, and innumerable leaves of various plants. The rocky cliffs, turreted and caverned, echoing the deep voices of

NOTES BY THE WAY

—If someone will come up with an invention for driving out or exterminating both starlings and pigeons, this would be a quieter and safer world in which to live. —Brantford Journal.

—Horses have furnished mighty useful auxiliary power this Fall. If it had not been for horses there would be more empty silos. As it is there are plenty. —Farmers Advocate.

—It is explained that the reason Univac, the electronic calculator, guessed the U. S. election results wrong was that it was fed the wrong information. This shows the superiority of human experts, who can go wrong with the right information. —Edmonton Journal.

Probably it is no accident that a new attack on the common cold—a \$500,000, three-year attack, no less—is announced at this particular moment. For with the chill of winter moving in from the north and settling down in man's bones, the cold season is at hand. Scientists and philanthropists, just like the rest of us, begin to get snifles and throat tickles, and wonder all over again whether anything can be done about it. —Sydney Post-Record.

When the police are on the hunt for stolen venison it is a time for the hundreds of hunters and their friends to hold documentary proof of ownership. How does a man go about proving the venison in his house came off this deer and not that deer? What are the distinguished marks of one piece of venison and another? Can the hair of individual deer be examined under microscope and distinguished as to individuality? Ah, it's a cruel world that sets a policeman on the trail of stolen venison. —Sudbury Star.

—If you're the type that nurses a grudge, the chances are pretty good that sooner or later you're also going to be nursing an ulcer. Scientific tests have proved all

An Interested Voice

(Winnipeg Free Press)
 In the flush of a naval success—which seems to have reduced by two the number of Japanese fishing vessels in the South China Seas—President Chiang Kai-shek has held another press conference to advise the United States on Pacific policy. Mr. Chiang is highly critical of the American "keep 'em guessing" policy in the Chinese islands. He urges a definite publically-announced American guarantee.

Many will agree that there is some point to Mr. Chiang's criticism of current U. S. policy, although it by no means follows that his proposed remedy is the right one, or that it is advanced with a single-minded regard for American security interests. The Communists have already shown that they will run serious risks in order to probe U. S. intentions; the more they incline to the view that the Americans are bluffing, the more will they be tempted into rash and reckless military courses. But this is really an argument for confining the guarantee to the existing public commitment, which covers only Formosa and the Pescadore Islands.

In their very natural resentment against the deeds of the Chinese Communists, Americans are too often inclined to ignore the fact that the hopes of the Nationalists are bound up with the expectation of a third world war. Without massive American aid, a return to the mainland would, almost certainly, be mass suicide for Chiang's aging forces. The master of Formosa would be more than human if, in such circumstances, he failed to welcome and to encourage a U. S. policy of maximum involvement in Chinese affairs.

most conclusively that bottled up resentment stimulates an acid activity in your innards which is death to good digestion and an open invitation to the boogie man, of the business executive, the peptic ulcer. What can you do to avoid ulcers? First of all, you can steer clear of situations which are likely to provoke unnecessary emotional strain. Secondly, you can give your stomach a rest by sounding off occasionally instead of swallowing a steady diet of unspoken resentment if you yell when someone steps on your toes. —Today's Health Magazine.

—One young man in Cologne, Germany, wears rather a red face these days when anyone mentions colored shirts. Impressed by the colorful American-type shirts worn by most of his fellow workers, he decided to buy one himself. And so as not to be outdone by them, he purchased just about the gaudiest one he could find. He brought his parcel home from the shop and unwrapped it in high glee. To his surprise he found pinned inside the tail of the shirt an envelope addressed to "The handsome man who purchased this shirt. From the girl who helped to make it". A letter inside read: "Please send me your photograph." He replied to the invitation. Three days later he received a letter written on notepaper of a delicate shade of mauve and pleasantly perfumed. Opening it he read: "I only wanted to find out what kind of a conceited fool would be prepared to wear such an awful shirt." —Ottawa Journal.

The Poet's Corner

A PORTRAIT
 (R. L. Stevenson)

Thin-legged, thin-chested, slight
 Neat footed and weak fingered; in
 his face
 Lean, large-boned, curved of beak,
 and touched with race,
 Bold-lipped, rich-tinted, mutable as
 the sea,
 The brown eyes radiant with vivacity—
 There shines a brilliant and romantic grace.
 A spirit intense and rare, with
 trace on trace
 Of passion, impudence and energy.
 Valiant in velvet, light in ragged
 luck,
 Most vain, most generous, sternly
 critical,
 Buffoon and poet, lover and sensualist.
 A deal of Ariel, just a streak of
 Puck,
 Much Antony, of Hamlet most of
 all,
 And something of the Shorter-
 Catechist.
 —W. E. Henley.

SUPER
 Ken-Tone
 THE SUPERIOR
 LATEX-BASE WALL PAINT

Refrigeration
 Repairs To All Makes
 APPLIANCES
 SALES & SERVICE
 MOTORS
 Rewinding and Repairs
 ELECTRICAL
 Repairs
 Palmer Electric
 Phone 8545 8544

The Passing Scene

By Observer
 MORE FEAR

The Educational Department of the New York Times has been studying the matter of Russian language teaching in American colleges. The report of the study should be of interest to everybody who is concerned about the relations between Russia and the West. It might be expected that all talk about Russia that has been going on since the Second World War would result in a selection of Russian by an increasing number of students, especially those who might be looking forward to Government service in one or other of the many security agencies at home and abroad.

That the need is considered great by leading American educators is evidenced by the following statements given to the Times investigators.
 Dr. F. Parker, president of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic Languages—"For our own national security it is important that we know more about the Soviet Union and certainly more about its language."
 Dr. Wilson Elkins, President of the University of Maryland—"Our foreign language department definitely urges upon students the advantage of knowing Russian. We point to the posts now held by former students who majored in that subject."
 Dr. Burton Trueme, associate Dean of the University of Michigan—"Students should be encouraged to take Slavic languages. When representatives of the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and other Government agencies come to the campus they are keenly interested in students with a good knowledge of Russian."

Dr. Earl McGrath of the University of Kansas City and former United States Commissioner of Education—"Knowledge of Russian would enable the student to obtain first hand knowledge of Communist writings and thus be able to evaluate their falsity."
 Dr. W. B. Alexander, Vice-President of Antioch College, Ohio—"From the point of view of national security more students should be encouraged to take courses in Russian. For every American who has studied Russian there are 100 Russians who have studied English. We are handicapped in trying to understand what they are up to, by this disproportion. Further, if we hope to work with some sort of coexistence with the Russians we need to know much more about their language and culture than we do now."

Finally, Dr. Nathan Pusey, president of Harvard University, had this to say: "The more Americans know about the Soviet Union and the Slavic countries the better prepared we shall be as a nation to face the power situation in which we find ourselves today."
 So much for the need as seen by the educators. Now, a few interesting figures about the actual situation. Of the 2,600,000 students now in American institutions of higher learning only 5000 are enrolled in Russian language classes. This is a drop of 35% from 1950, when interest was at its peak. At Columbia 311 students are studying Russian this year; four years ago the number was a little more than 500.

At the University of Michigan there has been a 25% drop since last year. At the University of Denver 46 students took Russian in 1951; this year there were not enough students to organize a class. At Wisconsin the drop since 1950 is approximately 50%. At Bowdoin College, Maine, there were 22 students studying Russian last year; this year the number is 13.

No doubt, one reason for this rapid decline can be traced to the growing inclination among college students everywhere to take only those very difficult subjects which are required by regulation. Russian is a very difficult language for a foreigner to acquire and it is always an elective subject. But the Times' report emphasizes that this is only a minor reason. The major one can be traced to the fact that in recent years has descended like a blight on academic circles.

That this is so can be judged from the following excerpts from the report (there are many others in the same vein): (1) College officials say that many students are afraid to take any subject connected in any way with the Soviet Union. The students (understandably) are worried lest at some time in the future the fact that they had studied the Russian language might be considered "suspicious" by some super-sensitive investigator; talk about Russia that has been going on since the Second World War would result in a selection of Russian by an increasing number of students, especially those who might be looking forward to Government service in one or other of the many security agencies at home and abroad.

Another Dr. Parker, who teaches at New York University, made this statement: "There seems to be a general nervousness about taking a course in Russian. It is not rational fear, but it is an attitude that must be dispelled. If we are to strengthen our national security."

How joyful the Russians must be over this state of affairs! The next thing we shall hear is that college students are afraid to take their soiled linen to Chinese laundries or sample chop-suey in Chinese eating-places lest either action be considered subversive.

Failing Beans

Ottawa Journal
 General farmers today do not raise many beans—not the old-time, favorable, colorful varieties of yesteryear. Half a century ago, a solid countryman took quiet pride in his bean patch and in the cherished varieties.

In October, a 12-year-old knew that one of his Saturday jobs would be to pull and stake the beans. Then the bulky stacks were stored beneath the west scaffold of the horse barn to wait for the right December day for flailing. On a windy, last-month morning, father would say after breakfast, "Son, guess we'll flail today."

The countryman is going to send three words to a panel of these so-called radio experts one of these days: stall, toggle and swing—the three parts of a flail.

It looks deceptively easy to flail the swing high, give a casual twist to the toggle in air, and then bring the stall down flat and hard on the eight-inch layer of crinkly, dry pods and vines. But many a farm lad has given himself a painful thump on the head until he has learned the special technique of swinging the flail correctly.

Back and forth, up and down, a man and his boy worked slowly at each hard blow on the vines and pods, dried beans popped high in the air from the leathery pods. The layer was fluffed up two or three times with the pitchfork then the vines were forked off the beans, dust, debris and broken pieces swept into a pile.

The barn doors were opened through and the mass of material poured from one battered tin tub into another while the strong draft took a way everything but the colored nuggets that meant Saturday suppers and Sunday breakfasts for another year.

The Age Old Story

And Nathanael said unto him: Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!

FOR
 Tailoring
 and
 Alterations
 RITE-WAY
 CLEANERS
 7387

Cheers!

BOTTLED IN
 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND