

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1952

Redistribution

A committee of the House of Commons is now in the closing stages of its task of redrawing the boundaries of Federal constituencies throughout the land. These, notes the Ottawa Citizen, are usually occasions for deep gloom among opposition parties, and dark charges of "gerrymander" against the committee majority. This time, however, there are fewer indications of discord from the rooms where the operation takes place.

Should it turn out that the political carving knife has been wielded with more dexterity than usual, the fact will still remain that constituency boundaries are being altered without the electors concerned having any direct say in the matter. Members of the Commons, irrespective of party, tend to regard redistribution as a matter in which no one has any concern but themselves. They behave as if they had a vested personal right in the seat which they happen to represent.

The whole system of redistribution, as practised in Canada, argues the Citizen, is outmoded. The matter affects everyone who is entitled to cast a ballot. Under a commission setup—dependent of political parties but responsible to Parliament as a whole—there would be full opportunity for any section of the public to make its views known. This, because public hearings and the public posting of proposed boundary changes are an inherent part of the redistribution plan followed in several other democracies. Moreover, the commission is handed a set of rules by the legislative body to which it is answerable.

"The least the Commons can do," says our Ottawa contemporary, "is to make the earliest possible preparations for establishing a set of commissions—one for each province—and to lay down the principles of fair representation as between one riding and another. It should not be caught by another decennial census without having made this basic reform."

Milk And Vitamins

The Ontario Milk Control Board has issued an order banning the sale of vitamin-fortified skim milk in the province and a controversy has resulted. This product—milk, from which most of the fat content had been removed, and with certain synthetic vitamins added—had attained quite a vogue in Toronto and London, and dairies there who had advertised it widely are up in arms and threaten to continue marketing it regardless of the board's order. They claim other food products are being allowed to fortify with vitamins.

A noted nutritionist, Dr. McHenry of Toronto University, has backed up the Control Board by saying milk, even skim milk, needs no artificial addition as it is a good and nutritious food in itself. The Toronto Globe and Mail gets into the act with the comment that we are fooling around too much with food and points out that the order does not prevent any dairy selling skim milk, "it simply prevents them from glamorizing it."

Rural Revolution

Over the past 50 years farm operations in Canada have progressed from hand and horse labor to an occupation that is highly mechanized and scientific. The farmer himself has changed from a hewer of wood leading an isolated life to a citizen of the world—a logical development of producing food for export.

This great revolution on the farm, writes Dr. G. E. Reaman in the current issue of C-I-L Oval, actually began when the mechanical reaper displaced the sickle and scythe more than 100 years ago. But it wasn't until 1900 that real progress was made in mechanization of farm practices with the introduction of the gasoline engine. By this means the farmer achieved power in a controlled quantity that enabled him to free himself from horse-produced power.

Dr. Reaman, who is head of the Department of English at the Ontario Agricultural College, reviewed the scientific developments in the last 50 years. When the laws of genetics came to be understood, it was possible to breed dairy cows which gave more milk. Much experimentation has taken place in both breeding and feeding poultry so that today any fowl which does not produce satisfactorily is elimin-

ated from the flock. The discovery of antibiotics has meant a great deal in fighting and overcoming diseases in animals as well as humans.

In the field of pesticides, DDT was probably the first wonder-working insecticide. Many others followed soon after. New fungicides, rodenticides and weedkillers have been developed. Other new chemicals cause the leaves to fall off ripened crops to facilitate hand and machine harvesting.

No longer does the farmer point a finger of scorn at "fancy farming" carried on by scientists. He now realizes they are working for him.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A Montreal physician advocating hospital treatment for drunks said alcoholism is a democratic illness because it is no respecter of persons.

The Public Works Department has been active in developing methods of stabilizing our clay roads. Advances in this direction are of the greatest value in extending the benefit of reasonably good roads to all districts off the main highways.

Jet aircraft can almost beat the sun in trans-Atlantic time or, as indicated by the R. C. A. F. Sabre-Jet squadron, can be held up by the weather for weeks. The weather, rather than any geographical area, would seem to be the "last frontier."

The battle of Dettingen in Bavaria was fought this date 1743. King George II was the last English king to take an active part in a battle, leading British, German and Austrian forces to victory over the French under Marshal Noailles.

Even those who are not directly involved in highway accidents pay for the carelessness of the driver or drivers who are responsible. Insurance rates, as car owners well know, reflect the accident rate. Seek not to know on whom the loss falls. It falls on thee.

Defence production contracts announced during the period April 16-30 include \$10,401 for recreational equipment; \$10,890 for vacuum cleaners; \$44,940 for women's shirts; \$181,790 for neckties; and \$254,994 for refrigerators. Construction contracts include \$646,773 for an officers' mess and trainees' mess at Regina; and \$690,364 for an officers' mess and trainees' mess at Edmonton.

The British aircraft carrier Campania, en route to the northwest coast of Australia with an atomic bomb, is again shifting Canada's position in the world. Our experts were for a time barred from being given secret American data because of their close association with British scientists. Once again Britain is in the van and can expect to be recognized as a valued partner of the United States in that field.

Now, according to Health Minister Martin, the Federal Government is pledged to undertake a National Health policy, along the lines of the similar organization in the United Kingdom when doctors will be state employees and their patients still patients. But as the cost would amount to some \$400,000,000, the Government intends to go slow in the matter until the cost of National defence has been lightened.

Members of the Montreal Income Tax Staff Association now hope to find jobs for all of the 176 employees dismissed last month under a re-organization shuffle. With one week to go before their month's notice from the Department of National Revenue expires, 87 of the employees have been found jobs by the association. In addition, 34 employees found jobs on their own initiative. The 60 employees who have still not found other employment, include many of the older people who have served for many years in the department. Of 31 women who applied for jobs, 16 have found them. Of 111 men who applied, 71 have been placed. Private industry hired 81 of the employees. Government departments absorbed only six.

Art in terms of dollars. A view of Salisbury Cathedral from the Bishop's garden, painted by Constable, was sold to Messrs. Agnew's for \$64,575 at Christie's. According to family tradition the work was a wedding present from Dr. John Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury, to his youngest daughter, Elizabeth, when she married John Mirehouse in October, 1823. Another version of this picture, painted by Constable in 1826, was given by the Bishop of Salisbury to his eldest daughter, Mrs. Pike Scrivener, who died in 1889. It is now in the Frick collection in New York. Another, also done by the artist in 1826, which brought \$18,600 in the Sir Joseph Beecham sale in May, 1917, is in the Metropolitan Museum, New York.

Giving Them A Chance



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.

SPEAKING OF ATHLETICS

Sir—Track and field athletics are in crescendo. The increasing interest is due to the lighting and improvement at Memorial Park grounds—also to the grand fillip at Summerside—which seems to be setting the pace. It has several foster fathers whose voices are scarcely heard above a whisper, but who come through with the "mazuma" when the occasion requires it.

The towns and villages of the Province will no doubt form athletic clubs and get in some good practice and be able to send competitors to the main event, the Charlottetown and Summerside—which are scheduled to take place every two weeks during the summer. The "meets" will be an attraction, and diversion for our friends—the "strangers" within our gates whom we must endeavour to intrigue and amuse. The "Sport of Kings", with races on many week days and nights will provide glamour for our town, and thrill to the sympathetic nervous system of an investment in the realm of chance. Mayor Wedge's plan for financing Summerside rink evolved from a state of confusion and flux. The contest emerged from the nebulous and was instantly popular. Many "clubs" are already putting on special drives. It is quite possible that all "Prince County towns" will put on a play or card party, bridge or something to raise the fund. Practically everyone in Prince County would be glad to see a grand municipal structure in Summerside. Time and space will not permit the numbering of the advantages.

It would appear that the ideal place to inculcate the love of track and field sports is in our schools and colleges. If teachers would take out boys, girls and girls, and put them through some races and jumping in lieu of P.T. and calisthenics in class rooms, the virus might be inoculated that would produce some Olympian athletes in the next four or eight years. The waving of some magic wand doesn't make champions. It takes years of assiduous practice and temperate, sober living and many other spurs of the subject, must be not too solicitous of his raiment and practicing paraphernalia. Jumping bars are easily erected. There are many obsolete mill weights of 14, 28 and 56 lbs. in the country, "wherever you go" will there's a way" apparently there's a great upsurge of interest in swimming and that's as it should be.

Some of the Red Cross "meets" are already scheduled. All who can possibly do so (and that just about includes everybody) should learn to swim. It is possible to teach a person to swim in a very few minutes by demonstrating the breast stroke, calming the pupil's nerves, and suspending his or her body in the water so that the mouth and nose is above water. Have the subject stroke easily and kicking back at the same time. The subject should utilize the resistance of the water and are able to make three or four strokes. From there it is a matter of more practice. The "crawl" stroke and others are already after consideration. It would be something unique, and in sport parlance a "natural". Could be made an annual event. Everyone wants to see it, but the big question is who or what club or body will stage the show. Will it be "professional" or "amateur"? The lines of demarcation have been drawn more sharply in the Maritimes this year. There are a lot of amateur swimming clubs in N. S. and N. B. We might get more amateurs than professionals.

The Poet's Corner

CONTENTMENT

I live on hope and that I think do all
Who come into this world, and
Since I see
Myself in swim with such good company,
I take my comfort whatsoever befall
I bid and abide, as if more stout and tall
My spirit would grow by waiting like a tree;
And, clear of others' toil, it pleases them
In theirs their quick ambition to forestall.
And if through careless eagerness I slide
To some accomplishment, I give my voice
Still to desire, and in desire abide.
I have no stake abroad; if I rejoice
In what is done or undone, I content
Neither in friend nor foe my secret choice.
—Robert Bridges.

It's All Just Coincidence

(Montreal Gazette)

It is interesting to note that Hon. Stuart Garson, the Minister of Justice has admitted that "sometimes a factor" in making appointments to the Bench. But perhaps the public would do well to take with reserve his further statement that they "are not of a dominating character." For some time the domination has been even painful. It has caused concern in the Canadian Bar Association. The president of the Canadian Bar Association, Brig-General J. A. Clark, has said that "no lawyer in his heart believes in the present system of appointment for judges." In his opinion, "we Canadians per se" have a system of appointment that is unworthy of us and of our country.

Nor is Brig-General Clark the only member of the Bar Association who has felt uneasiness over the system of appointing judges in Canada. In 1949 the Canadian Bar Association, in its annual conference, unanimously passed a resolution in the hope that it might help prevent abuses. This resolution asked that the Government, before making appointments, should consult with the officials of the legal associations of the provinces concerned.

This resolution was received by the Government but rejected. Mr. Garson says that the Government cannot delegate or water down its responsibility by consulting with representatives of the Bar, or others who have no constitutional responsibility. But consultation does not in itself mean that the Government would be obliged to act in accordance with the recommendations it might receive. Its wisdom might be enriched; but its freedom would be unabridged. In fact Mr. Garson now admits that he frequently consults members of the Bench and Bar before making appointments. But it scarcely seems that consultation with the legal associations would involve any more loss of constitutional responsibility than consultation with judges or lawyers of Mr. Garson's private choice. However, there is admitted the possibility that he might hear opinions less favorable to his inclinations.

Nobody should expect perfection in this life. It is unreasonable to expect that judicial appointments should be entirely free of political

unless there would be big money for the professionals. The amateurs would have to get cups and medals which would be easier to finance. There should be some concrete plan of action started very soon. I am, Sir, etc., J. FENDERGAST, Kensington, P.E.I.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ROYAL VISIT

"His Royal Highness Prince Albert arrived here on Saturday evening last in the Steamer 'Lady Head', from Canada. The Prince was received on landing by His Excellency George Dundas, Esq., Lieutenant Governor, and a large crowd of persons who had assembled on Pownall Street Wharf to welcome him. Having walked to the head of the wharf, he stepped into the carriage of His Excellency and immediately drove to Government House. The Prince was accompanied by Major Cowell, Royal Engineers, Capt. the Hon. F. Egerton, H. M. Ship 'St. George', and Mr. Wharton.

"On Sunday morning His Royal Highness attended divine worship in St. Paul's Church. On Monday he visited the Provincial Building and drove out into the country. On Tuesday he embarked, on board the Steamer 'Westmoreland', at 9 o'clock, which vessel conveyed him to H. M. Ship 'St. George', 110 guns, lying in the Bay since Saturday last. The Prince was accompanied to the 'St. George' by Lieutenant Governor Dundas, Mrs. Dundas, the Countess Mulgrave, Lady Laura Fergus and Mr. Atkinson, private secretary.

"It is a matter of regret to our citizens that the 'St. George', a magnificent line-of-battle ship, submitted outside the harbour, some eight or ten miles from the Blockhouse, particularly as there is good reason to believe she could have come into this port in perfect safety, there being sufficient water to float any ship in Her Majesty's service."

—The Islander, July 19, 1861.
(Prince Albert after referred to was Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, second son of Queen Victoria, who was then an officer in the naval service, and the eighth and youngest son of the Duke of Kent, the Queen's mother, which accounts for the absence of any public demonstration. It was this Prince who in 1874 married Maria Alexandrovna, daughter of the Emperor of Russia, and by inheritance became Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.)

considerations. But surely political considerations must have their reasonable limits. In the life of the present Parliament these limits have been seriously overreached.

A disturbing example was provided at the very beginning of this Parliament. Only about two months after the general election four members of Parliament were appointed to the Bench. It has always seemed fitting that those who are elected to serve in Parliament should represent their constituents at least a few years before accepting other appointments. To leave Parliament, even for the Bench, almost immediately after an election shows disrespect alike for Parliament and for the electors.

The impression was left that these four members had run for "one more election" in order that the Government might enjoy the advantage of having "sitting members" for its candidates. As soon as the Government was in power, it fell safe to throw open these four seats for quick by-elections, before the public estimate of its record and policies had had any time to change.

This was bad enough. But there has also been the case of the Liberal member who resigned from the Commons. He made himself the campaign manager for the Liberal candidate contesting the by-election to fill his vacancy in the House. Then he was appointed to the Bench.

There are other disturbing examples. Mr. Garson's emphasis upon the minor importance of political considerations is hard to accept when one member after another has left the Commons in this Parliament to go to the Bench. The more recent appointments of Liberal members have included Mr. Epheze Marier, Mr. Eugene

Notes By The Way

Judging by the charges and counter-charges followers of rival presidential candidates are hurrying at each other in the U. S., one wonders whether either major party will be able to form a united front when the real battle begins.—Edmonton Journal.

Lord Campton, former clerk of the British House of Commons, thinks Canada's Parliament is a very quiet place. He might revise his opinion if he visited the House of Commons at a time when Mr. Drew was taking on Mr. Howe or Mr. Garson.—Ottawa Citizen.

Dr. Hill, Parliamentary Secretary to the U. K. Minister of Food, said recently: "Owing to our balance of payments position it is unlikely that any further imports of apples from dollar sources can be permitted this year."—Hamilton Spectator.

The Moscow Radio claims that a Russian invented the first motor car 200 years ago. It seems a pity that the cleverness of Czarist times has been lost, and modern Russians look to the West, especially the United States, for its automobile models.—Ottawa Citizen.

Anecdotes about the thrift of the Scots are not jokes. Evidence has come to hand that these stories are based on fact. As might be expected, there is a Scottish Savings Committee that has been looking into the savings habits of its countrymen and their neighbors, and it reports that Scotsmen, on the average, saved the equivalent of \$53.48 in the year compared

with an average saving of \$25.92 for all United Kingdom residents. The Aberdeen Scots led all the others with \$120 in gross new savings.—Toronto Telegram.

The fact that a local man was unscathed when knocked between the rails as a 20-car freight train passed over him should serve as a severe reminder that the next person who attempts to take matters into their own hands and crosses railway tracks when a train is obstructing their passage, might not be so lucky. Only too often persons attempt to crawl under, or hop over the couplings of seemingly stationary cars—an extremely dangerous practice.—Brookville Recorder and Times.

A difference of opinion that was very strong 454 years ago has just now been settled. The city of Florence, Italy, has publicly apologized for having hanged and burned Girolamo Savonarola, famous Dominican monk, on May 23, 1498. Savonarola's crusade against luxury and in favor of humility brought upon him the wrath of the powerful Medici family, who barred the monks of the monastery, St. Mark's, from ever entering the chapel of the Palazzo Vecchio. This ban has now been lifted.—New York Herald Tribune.

The Age-Old Story

If the ministrations of death, written and engraved in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away; how shall not the ministrations of the Spirit be rather glorious? . . . But their minds were blinded; for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ. . . . But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

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