

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1950

Education Week

A few years ago a college professor here
asked members of his class their reaction to
a lecture delivered the previous night by an
outstanding authority in the field which
they were then studying.

Although teachers cannot "learn" for
their pupils, they have the opportunity and
challenge of firing in their charges a desire
to do that for themselves, and the responsi-
bility of directing that desire along the most
desirable paths.

The end result, as seen by Princess Eliza-
beth, is that education "makes a people easy
to lead but difficult to drive; easy to govern,
but impossible to enslave."

Splendid Entertainment

Prince Edward Islanders had an opportu-
nity last week to view the "tops" in ice skat-
ing entertainment. Not only this, but to pay
tribute, if belated, to Miss Barbara
Ann Scott who has brought fame to herself
and to Canada.

In arranging for the presentation of such
an outstanding attraction the management
of the Forum is to be congratulated and
commended.

A performance of this kind is not staged
without great preparation and organization.
That the performance proved so successful
is a tribute to the close co-operation of the
artists, technicians and management.

While much had to be done in a short
space of time to prepare the setting for the
performances, public safety measures were
not overlooked. Police and Firemen were
stationed at strategic points in the building
and every precaution was taken to meet any
emergency. This, along with the co-operation
of the public in adhering to the "no smok-
ing" regulation, added much to the success
and enjoyment of the feature.

The Forum management, despite early
disappointments, persevered in their efforts
in having "Skating Sensations" perform
here. It lived up to all advance publicity,
and it is hoped will be the forerunner of
other great attractions combining education-
al as well as entertainment values in good
measure.

The Old Time "Drummers"

The Ottawa Citizen has been studying
the commercial field, and has come to the
conclusion that the "Drummers" are com-
ing back. From many sources, it says, some
assurance that the buyer's market is back
to stay. But no one has expressed the thought
more succinctly than has Mr. L. F. Burrows,
secretary of the Canadian Horticultu-
ral Council. To a convention of fruit and
vegetables growers recently Mr. Burrows
said, "the honeymoon period of effortless
sales is definitely ended," and he added that
the industry would have to "fight harder
than ever for the customer's dollar." Practi-
cally every industry finds itself with a
similar outlook; once again business is priz-
ing that high class salesmanship that flowered
between the two world wars.

For almost a decade there has been lit-
tle need for trained salesmen. Until recently,
manufacturers generally have been able only
partially to supply the demands of their
customers. No agents have gone out to sell
motor cars, electric stoves, refrigerators, or
vacuum cleaners. Instead the customers
have come to the stores and sales rooms,
begging to be allowed to buy products in
short supply. Men have gone from store
to store seeking shirts, and waited six
months for a new suit of clothes to be
delivered.

That is over now, and the sales agents,
the commercial travellers and the manu-
facturers' agents are back on the job. But

there are few of them left, and a new gener-
ation is being trained to take their places.
The famous salesmen of the past—"drum-
mers", they were often called—were rarely
of the high-pressure type. They were truth-
ful, hardworking men, whose first concern
was satisfied customers. The men they sold
to were their friends, and they would much
rather lose a sale than lose a friend. The
orders they turned in provided the lifeblood
of business. They made business history,
and so they will again.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Government spent \$33,574.32 in
tourist promotion last financial year.

The External Provincial Audit has jump-
ed in cost from \$3,000 to \$10,407.16.

The Fishermen's Loan Board last year
drew \$2,992.38 from the Government.

Gasoline Tax rebates in last financial
year totalled \$181,735.54—\$21,735 more
than the estimate.

According to the Premier our part of
the Trans-Canada Highway will run some
75 miles from Borden to Wood Islands, but
no particulars of the route were vouchsafed.

Short courses in Farm Mechanics get
under way at the Vocational School today.
The students not merely wish to be farmers.
They intend to be good farmers.

Settlement of the U. S. coal strike comes
as a relief to all. There is no one, however
distant from the mines involved who is not
affected by the "coal" war.

Veterans Minister Gregg states that he
will consider having the names of 225 Cana-
dians who lost their lives in the South Afri-
can war inscribed in a book and placed in
the memorial chamber of the peace tower of
the Parliament buildings.

Secretary E. D. Reid of the P. E. I. Po-
tato Growers Association suggests that po-
tato consumption be stimulated by a large
scale advertising campaign. There is no
doubt that even a modest increase in in-
dividual consumption would be as stimulat-
ing to the industry as the opening up of a
brand new market.

Howard Green, M.P. (P.C., Vancouver-
Quadra) has called for Canadian participa-
tion in a Pacific Pact. The potential enemy
is, of course, a Pacific power but "with the
shortest and easiest road to the heart of
democracy" being through this country to
the United States, we would be well advised
to make sure that it is also an Arctic pact.

Summerside is understandably concerned
over the prospect of losing the benefit of its
contract to supply electricity to the R. C. A.
F. Station there. Perhaps the best solution
to aim at would be the setting up of a form
of "ring-main" system by which generators
at every point could contribute to the gen-
eral supply of power. There would be the
further advantage that a generator failure
at any point would not deprive the locality
of power, although it would add to the load
carried by the remaining plants.

More jobs for deserving democrats. The
income tax division permanent staff is to be
increased by some 3,000 employees. The
action, we are told, does not mean an in-
crease in staff. A large number of tempo-
rary employees are being given permanent
status. Scheduled for the 1950-51 fiscal
year, the increase was anticipated in esti-
mates tabled in the House of Commons Fri-
day by Finance Minister Abbott. Major in-
crease will be in district tax offices where
present permanent staffs of 2,450 will be
more than doubled to 5,300. Permanent
appointments throughout the department
will be made of assessors, payroll auditors
and clerks.

Michelangelo, Italian sculptor, painter,
architect, military engineer and poet, born
this date 1475. Known as the culminating
genius of the Renaissance. Early in life he
secured the patronage of Lorenzo de Medici,
in whose school of sculpture he studied and
imbibed much of the Platonic doctrines that
had been newly introduced into Italy. Later
he fell under the influence of Savonarola.
On the advice of the Cardinal di San
Giorgio, he journeyed to Rome in 1496 at
the age of twenty-one, to which period be-
longs his "Bacchus" and "Pieta". Three
years later he finished a colossal statue of
"David", now in the Academy of Fine Arts
in Florence. Taking up painting he had
many ecclesiastical contracts to carry out,
chief of which was the fresco known as
"The Last Judgment" for the Sistine Chapel,
one of the most magnificent pictures ever
painted, both in conception and execution,
that the world has ever seen. In his old age
Michelangelo became chief architect of St.
Peter's, Rome.

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.

IN REVERSE

Sir,—When I wrote my letter to
your Forum as published in your
issue of March first, I did not antici-
pate it would be necessary to
re-argue upon you for space,
that might well be used to better
purpose and for more laudable
and interesting purposes. In that
brief letter I questioned, yes de-
finitely contradicted, a misstate-
ment made by a correspondent,
who momentarily disgraced from
the editorial meeting attentions
he was devoting to affairs of the
Potato Growers' Association.
His appearance again on Satur-
day in your Forum column makes
it necessary for me to seek further
space in your paper, and I do so
with apologies befitting the occa-
sion. This correspondent, who made
an erroneous statement originally,
which I refuted, now suggests that
I furnish "proof" that he was
wrong. Not only that, but he sug-
gests how this should be done to
meet his pleasure. If the brief he
requests that I write, of which he
will be the sole adjudicator, con-
vinces him of his error, he will
then make amends to the second
aggrieved party. This procedure
seems to be somewhat similar to
the rules governing an ordinary
argument and debate, only in re-
verse. So I must decline to accede
to his suggestion.

I am, Sir, etc.
J. A. GILLIES.

The Poets Corner

MOZARTIAN AIR

Your name to know I cared not
Until I heard you speak,
And then I knew I dared not
Save in silence say it over,
Musing like a Mozartian air
On a sweet Mozartian air.

'Twas when I heard you speaking,
Yes, then, I knew I cared;
Your voice the silence breaking
Like a sweet Mozartian air
Woke echoes everywhere,
Quickened music on my tongue.

Like a Mozartian sweetness,
Gay and melodious,
Such, to me, is delectable,
That other music's voice I heard not.
Other echoes stirred not,
All was echo of your note.

Not to me you spoke then,
'Twas I that overheard.
And O the sweetness woke then!
As when a loved Mozartian air
Falling on midnight's care
Bids youth and childhood back
again.

—John Freeman.

Advertising The Remedy

(Saint John Telegraph Journal)
According to Secretary E. D. Reid
of the Prince Edward Island Pot-
ato Growers' Association, the con-
sumption of potatoes in North Amer-
ica in the last thirty years has
dropped from three bushels per
person annually to two bushels. He
blames this on the "general feel-
ing" that potatoes are fattening,
says something should be done to
counteract this impression, and sug-
gests a national advertising cam-
paign to induce the public to eat
more potatoes.

Now, unfortunately, there's at
least a germ of truth in the belief
that potatoes are fattening, so that
this will be difficult to sweep aside.
An ordinary helping of mashed
potatoes contains nearly twice as
many calories as a slice of bread,
and, in addition, has a high carbo-
hydrate value. An individual in-
clined to be obese, dietitians say,
should go easy on potatoes.

But the very elements which
make potatoes fattening to those
who tend to bulge at the middle
anyhow, make them an excellent
food for folks who don't have to
watch the scales every day. Potatoes
are filling, satisfying, easy to
digest, full of energy.

At one stage of history the Irish
practically lived on potatoes. Be-
fore blight rotted Ireland's potato
crops in the 1840's, and ushered in
the tragic famine, the average
Irishman consumed fifteen pounds
of potatoes a day in one form or
another — as a vegetable, as flour
in bread and cake, in soup, or fer-
mented and distilled into strong
drink. The diet may have been
monotonous but the Irish grew
tall and strong on it, and ran to
good solid bone and muscle rather
than fat.

If there should be a national
campaign to increase the use of
potatoes, it could do worse than to
stress the fact that a dollar spent
on potatoes will buy more nourish-
ment than a dollar spent on any
other food. It should also aim at
teaching the proper preparation of
potatoes — an art which most
cooks haven't acquired.

The Age-Old Story

He shall give His Angels charge
over thee, to keep thee in all thy
ways; they shall bear thee up in
their hands, lest thou dash thy foot
against a stone.

GOLF POPULAR

In the United States approxi-
mately 2,351,000 persons play at
least 10 rounds of golf a year on
the 5,200 golf courses.

A Determining Factor



"Young And Old: The Changing Age Pattern"

(Monthly Review of The Bank
Of Nova Scotia)

The much increased need for
school facilities and the growing
problem of finding a satisfactory
place in society for an increasing
proportion of older people are two
contrasting results of changes in
the structure of the Canadian
population, says the current
Monthly Review of the Bank of
Nova Scotia.

The Review, which is devoted to
a study of the changing age pat-
tern of the population, points to
the rapidly increasing pressure on
school facilities resulting from the
"baby boom" of the forties. Dur-
ing the thirties enrolment in Cana-
dian elementary schools gradu-
ally declined, but the upsurge in
births set in motion a new wave
of increase in the school popula-
tion. Heaviest pressure on the first
grade will occur in 1953, when
children born in 1947, the peak year
of births, will be entering school,
and pressure of the school system
as a whole will increase for some
years after, reaching an all-time
high towards the end of this
decade, perhaps 30 per cent or
more above present enrolment.
This increase obviously presents
major problems in class-room
space, in teacher supply and in
the finances of the various gov-
ernments concerned.

After describing some of the
changes in age groups that will
take place in Canada in the next
ten years as a result of past fluctu-
ations in the birth rate, the Re-
view goes on to discuss the fact
that an increasing proportion of
the population is in the older age
groups. This aging of the popu-
lation, which is characteristic of
all Western nations, is a reflection
of the fact that the mortality rate
has been so marked in this
century and of falling birth rates.
Canada's population is still young
compared with that of France or
Britain or even that of the United
States: well over a third are still
under 20 and only about a fifth
are 50 and over. Yet the trend is
obvious, for at the beginning of
the century some 45 per cent were
under 20 and only 15 per cent
were 50 and over.

Even with no further reduction
in mortality rates, the number of
persons in Canada aged 45 to 64
will increase from 1.2 millions
in 1949 to some 3.2 millions in
1971, and they will then make up
an appreciably larger percentage
of those in the most active years
of their working life (20 to 64) than
the present 34 per cent. Over the
same period, the Canadian popu-
lation of 65 and over will increase
from about a million to a million
and a half. Furthermore, even by
1971 the great gains that have been
made in the past generation in
increasing life expectancy will not
yet be fully reflected in the age
structure of the population.

Those who will then
occupy the older age groups will be
survivors from a day when infant,
child and young adult mortality
rates were much higher than they
are today.

The Review observes that while
lowered mortality has been aug-
menting the numbers of older
people, social and economic
changes characteristic of modern
industry, and the reduced em-
phasis on skill and craftsmanship,
have tended to squeeze out the
older worker. The movement to
crowded urban districts from the
farm, where the old could make
themselves useful even at an ad-
vanced age, has reduced their op-
portunities for usefulness in the
family and often makes it difficult
to find living space for them.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

BREACH OF PRIVILEGES

Journal of the House of As-
sembly, Saturday, January 24,
1952:

Mr. Speaker called the atten-
tion of the House to a circum-
stance which had been brought
to his notice, and which might be
held to involve a breach of the
privileges of the House, viz.: that
the Clerk Assistant had, on the
first day of the present Session
been served with a summons, is-
sued by the Clerk of the Court of
Commissioners for the Recovery
of Small Debts, in Charlottetown,
to appear before that Court on
the 3rd day of February next, in
answer to an action for an alleged
debt; and, thereupon, it was
"Resolved, That this House can-
not consistently with its privileges
and a due regard to the public in-
terests, dispense with the atten-
dances of any of its officers,
during the sittings thereof; and,
therefore, that the said Clerk
Assistant be not permitted to obey
the summons aforesaid, until the
first Court day after the termina-
tion of the Session.

"Ordered, That the Chief Clerk
of the House do communicate the
above Resolution to the said
Court of Commissioners."

ing, the difficulties ahead, though
real, are of less formidable propor-
tions.

Because of the growing numbers
of the old, the economic and so-
cial changes that have occurred,
and increased emphasis on the
general responsibility of society for
individual welfare, more and more
attention has been devoted to
making provision for old people.
Practically every advanced country
has some government scheme for
assisting them. In Canada, the re-
vision of the present system of
non-contributory Dominion-Pro-
vincial pensions for needy old
people is a live issue.

The Review points out that the
actual burden of old-age depen-
dency depends not only on how
much of current output society
sees fit to divert in the interests
of the old but also on how well
the productive capacities of older
people are used. It is now widely
recognized that persons' func-
tional age is by no means the
same as his chronological age.
Some are as young biologically at 70
as others at 60. Frequently elderly
people prefer to remain in jobs be-
yond the retirement age and it is
often conducive to their health
and happiness to do so. The com-
pulsory withdrawal of such people
from productive employment is a
waste of manpower and to the ex-
tent that older people continue to
be usefully employed the burden
of old-age dependency is reduced.

Even more important than the
question of work for persons be-
yond the usual retirement age is
that of using to full advantage a
working force that contains an in-
creasing proportion of workers over
40. It is a fact that appears in many
popular bulletins requiring revision.
It is often said, for instance, that
older workers are less productive
than younger ones and that they
are less adaptable in learning new
techniques. A number of investi-
gations have disclosed that old
dogs can learn new tricks—the
ability to learn declines only slowly
with age, and the apparent in-
ability to learn is often due to
lack of practice, or to discouragement,
loss of interest, and other
psychological factors. The ques-
tion of productivity is more compli-
cated. There appears to be good
ground for believing that certain
physiological changes take place
in the forties which reduce speed,
agility and strength, though there
are great variations among in-
dividuals. But often what is lost
in speed of reaction and muscular
strength is offset by increased
skill, experience, judgment and de-
pendability.

The readjustments necessitated
by the changing age structure of
the population, the Review con-
cludes, are both economic and so-
cial. In the older countries the
economic problem is extremely
serious. In Canada with her grow-
ing population, expanding economy
and increasing productivity, the
economic problem is more manage-
able. Indeed, the social problem
may prove even more difficult than
the economic problem—to find a
satisfactory place in society for an

Notes By The Way

Some men don't have to be
driven to drink. They will walk
several blocks for it. — Saskatoon
Star-Phoenix.

One man brags his dog is
intelligent enough to turn on the
radio, but a much brighter dog
would turn it off. — Sherbrooke
Record.

The first suggestion of a mid-
dle class appears in 1414, when
Robert Erdeswyke, of Stafford,
charged with housebreaking and
murder, was described as a gen-
tleman. (Letter in the Times Lit.
Supp. (Stanley Clear). — New
Statesman and Nation.

Perhaps the British people are
unconsciously wiser than their
politicians. They have said stop,
wait, give us time to consider.
The British are the most polit-
ically experienced of all peo-
ples, and out of their present
hesitation may come a more real
stability. Without question the dis-
illusionment with the quackery
of socialism has set in. But Eng-
land and people everywhere may
be better served by patience to
let the Socialists themselves carry
the chance for reconciliation. The
British people in their time have
seemed headed for many another
abyss, and, to everyone's surprise,
stopped and turned just short of
the precipice. It is enough for
now that again they have halted.
And that they have — that much
is clear. — Wall Street Journal.

A gift more symbolical of the
West and the prairies could not
have been chosen than the hock-
which a local committee has pre-
sented to the Mayor of Toronto
as a memento of the Calgary trip
last year. To ask what the Mayor
proposes to do with it would,
perhaps, be impolite, though it is
a tantalizing question. The gift,
however, poses a problem. What
can Toronto present Calgary's
Mayor that would be symbolical
of this city? The city's coat of
arms shows a beaver, a Redskin,
and Britannia, but they are some-
what awkward to procure. Do
we hear some unkind suburban
officials suggest "Why not a
hog?" — Toronto Telegram.

The Opposition has introduced
a bill in the Ontario Legislature
which would compel medical ex-
aminations before marriage li-
cences are issued in the province.
The bill is aimed at the control
of venereal disease, which is the
strongest point in favor of such
legislation. The question is not
a new one. Similar legislation has
been introduced by the Opposition
in the past and has been allowed
to quietly die. Many physical in-
firmities in babies are traced to
disease-ridden parents. A barrier
to marriage would almost elim-
inate this condition. Under the
new methods of treatment that
are now available at little or no
cost couples contemplating mar-
riage would in the majority of
cases (where disease was found)
merely suffer the inconvenience
of postponement of their plans.
If the government is not pre-
pared to accept an Opposition
bill it might be wise in drafting
legislation of its own to assure
marriage getting away to a
healthy start. — Sudbury Star.

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