

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1951

St. Andrew's Day

Scotland and this Island have at least one notable feature in common. Both have seen their sons and daughters depart in search of livelihood until there are more of their descendants living abroad than at home.

It is almost certainly true that Scotland would not have attained a place in song and story, in the hearts of Scotsmen even, but for the exiles who cherished the memory of loch and ben; of cot and kirk; of gallant deeds and days of trial.

It is almost irrelevant that Scotland today is prospering as perhaps never before, that great systems of power development and transmission are bringing a belated industrial revolution to the Highlands.

Scots are brothers above all, not merely to Scots but to their fellow men.

Politics And The Crown

The impending retirement of Viscount Alexander as Governor General of Canada has given fresh impetus to ardent nationalists who seek to have a Canadian appointed as his successor.

There can be no question regarding the competence of a native-born Canadian to hold the post of Viceroy or Governor General. It would be easy to name several prominent citizens who are fully qualified to meet the requirements of the task.

If Canada is to continue to have a Governor General who, in effect, is the alter ego of the King, it would seem the better part of wisdom to confine the appointment to some one who is entirely without the range of political controversy.

In Korea Too

From somewhere in Korea comes the statement from Col. H. Binkley, 10th. Corps Medical Officer that "blood helicopters and wonder drugs" have reduced the death rate of wounded men in Korea to an all-time low.

The blood referred to is supplied by the Canadian Red Cross Society and is the result of the generous donations given by voluntary donors at clinics such as are to be held in this Province next week by the Mobile Team from Halifax.

Unfortunately, Charlottetown's clinic is going to conflict with the hockey match next Monday night. When the plans were made for these clinics more than two months ago great care was taken to avoid a night on which there was to be a hockey match.

out. 300 donors are required if the citizens of Charlottetown and the surrounding districts are to keep up their record of good attendance. As the clinic is to be held for three hours in the afternoon, and three in the evening, and the team can handle 50 an hour without having to keep anyone waiting, it is to be hoped that as many as possible will report in the afternoon and avoid any congestion in the evening.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Now we know from an official return at Ottawa, in reply to questions by Mr. McLure, of what butter and margarine respectively are constituted.

The storm damage on Tuesday though considerable, was not so great as might have been anticipated by the severity of the gale. It sounded much worse than it really proved to be.

The departure of the minesweepers Portage and Wallaceburg for the Bermudas and Bahamas at this time of year certainly gives the Navy an edge in recruiting over the other services.

Australia has advised Egypt that her wheat shipments are to be cut off, but the remarkable thing is that Egypt should be so badly managing her agriculture as to need such shipments.

Rather discriminatory. The then powerful Noble Order of the Knights of Labor of the 1880's was open to all workers except "gamblers, saloonkeepers, bankers, lawyers and stockbrokers."

The report that some twenty-five Montrealers were injured when burning gasses blew out the front of a building emphasizes the seriousness of the task of keeping the public at a safe distance from a fire. Another reason for such seeming officiousness is, of course, to prevent interference with the work of fire-fighting.

It seems, according to a N.A.T.O. communique quoted by Prime Minister St. Laurent, that Canada is to take part in financing the "infrastructure" programme of airfields and other works in Europe.

The Ottawa Citizen is concerned that an employee was discharged from classified defence work without a trial according to Canadian ideas of justice. There is a confusion of ideas involved. It is necessary that every citizen should have the right to work, but it is certainly not necessary that he be entitled to employment in national defence projects of a secret nature.

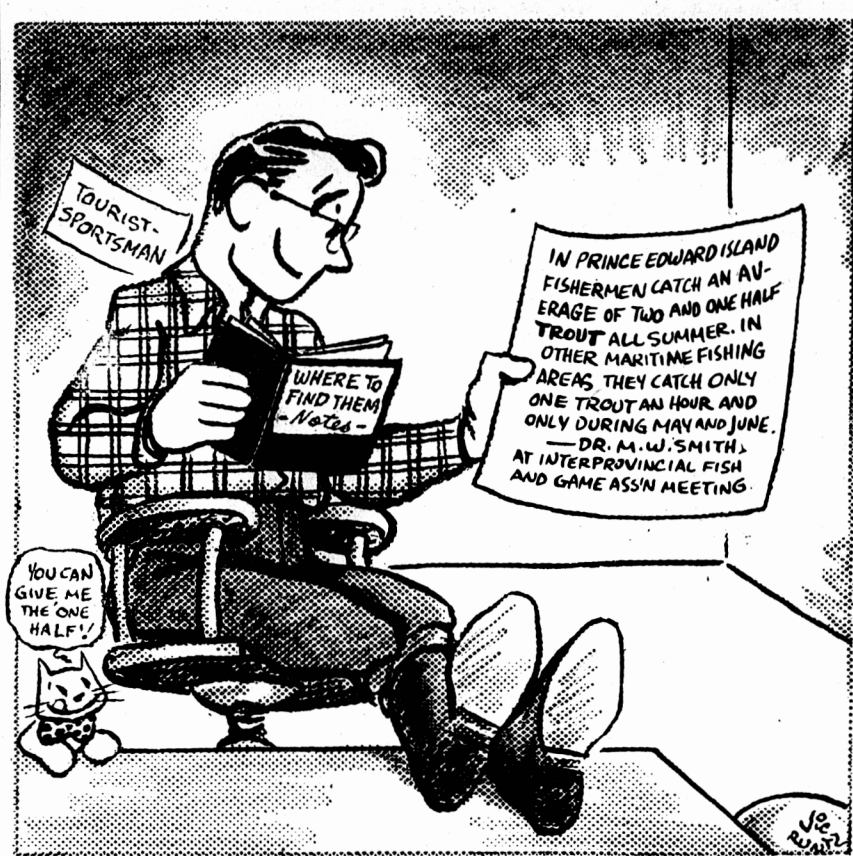
Argentine Republic has no love for news agencies and independent newspapers which have been suppressed. The recent victorious President Peron told a delegation of U. S. Congress that when he came to power in 1946, many persons wanted to work for the Government, while "now as the result of his policy, it is hard to find anyone for the jobs."

With prospects of a cessation of hostilities in Korea, and Germany joining the Western Allies there could be peace by Christmas. Chancellor Konrad Adenauer predicts that a peace settlement granting the Germans full partnership with the West and a share in its defence will be completed by January. "The world will be protected by this agreement from a Third World War," he says.

It is not so much that there is a considerable increase of mental diseases in Canada as that the unfortunate victims are being better looked after. In the old days "daffies", as they were designated, were pretty much left at home, and to wander about more or less uncared for.

Says that usually well informed organ of public opinion, The Montreal Gazette: A group of Quebec Liberals whose views carry no little weight in the federal field had a small and quiet get-together a few days ago, and arrived at some collective opinions which would carry a great deal of weight if the identities of the group could be divulged. It was agreed Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent seems happy in his present position, and is likely to lead the party through the next Federal election, and remain as party leader for some time to come.

For Future Reference



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.

THE CASE OF THE ABSENT CLERGYMAN

Sir, An unusual and mildly amusing controversy has recently arisen in our fair Garden Province, with the Premier on one side and the Anglican clergymen, headed by the Venerable Archdeacon Harrison of Summerside, on the other.

The Premier, as usual, was in no mood to take kindly to such fighting words and told the reverend gentlemen as much in his reply and at the same time gave a copy of his letter to the Press for publication. This angered the ministers more than ever, but in fairness to Dr. Jones it should be said that in this matter, at least, he acted rightly and properly, since the people generally have a right to know of any charge made against the head of the state.

The Premier's explanation was worded simply enough and, one may add, in characteristic fashion, for he is not noted for using the gloved hand overmuch. Put briefly, his assumption was that the Anglicans being Protestants in Dr. Jones' view were well and duly represented at the great event by the President of the Charlottetown Ministerial Association (though why the Charlottetown Provincial one he does not say) just as the Catholics were by His Excellency the Bishop of Charlottetown. If this was an error on the Premier's part he can surely be forgiven for it, for it is a view commonly held not only by Roman Catholics and Protestants generally but also by many Anglicans themselves. It wouldn't be fair to expect the Premier to understand all the niceties of Anglican opinion in such a delicate question.

As to the substance of the controversy itself, there are two or three points which, perhaps, a disinterested observer, as this writer wants to be, might help to clarify. To begin with, one ventures to suggest that the Premier, undoubtedly, should have invited one of the Anglican clergymen to sit down with him. Royally at the table, whether or not protocol demanded it, it would have been a gracious thing to do since, as the Archdeacon pointed out, Elizabeth and Philip are members of the Church of England (in England). Whatever the Premier might say in the heat or fun of debate, his failure to do so was almost certainly a "regrettable oversight," but by no stretch of the ordinary imagination could it be called an act of deliberate discourtesy.

Moreover, whatever else Dr. Jones may be, he is not an ignorant man, as the second letter from the clergy would seem to suggest. Members of the clergy, even of the Anglican variety, like all other mortals, can be petulant at times and it must be said they were in this case. Since they were not invited, they would have been well advised to take the hurt with good grace and to go on about their duties as if nothing had happened to disturb their equanimity. A slap to one's dignity, real or fancied, is never easy to take, but charity is the most excellent gift and humility is always superior to resentment. Archdeacons, Canons, Rural Deans, and such like, should

The Age-Old Story

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection... For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame... But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak... And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: that ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

not need to be reminded of these simple, elemental facts. As one who is deeply interested in the study of words, I was intrigued by the word "sophistry" as used in the three letters, bearing on the controversy, which has appeared so far. In its strict etymological and linguistic sense it is respectable enough, having to do with philosophy (chiefly Greek) and rhetoric. Since precious little philosophy and less rhetoric is apparent in any of the letters, it must be that both parties to the dispute used the word in the sense of prevarication or quibbling. This simply ought not to be. Imagine the King's first minister saying to an Archdeacon, "You're a quibbler!" and the Archdeacon replying, "You're another!"

It is difficult to see in what way the relationship between the Church of England in Canada and the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States has any bearing on the question at issue, but since the matter has been injected into the correspondence, the plain fact is that the Premier was right and the Archdeacon and his colleagues wrong. The two Churches are "very similar," simply ought not to be. Imagine the King's first minister saying to an Archdeacon, "You're a quibbler!" and the Archdeacon replying, "You're another!"

Others, however, have no such sentiment. If you were to tell a rock-ribbed Episcopalian Yankee, for example, that his Church is "just the same" as the Church of England he would withstand you to your face. It has been said, not without some show of truth, that in certain parts of the United States, notably the New England region, the Episcopal Church is, in practice, more congregational than episcopal.

It is to be devoutly and fervently hoped that the case of the absent clergyman will soon be forgotten for it is really a trivial and inconsequential matter. The Premier's action will in no wise add to or detract from his political prestige, for it is safe to say that not one Anglican in ten will care one jot or tittle about the episode one way or the other. At the same time, if Dr. Jones could bring himself to say a simple "I'm sorry," it would do him no harm and might even add to his stature as a scholar and a gentleman. For the ministers concerned, such acknowledgment would be a poor substitute for a seat at the Royal board but it would, at least, make them much happier than they are at the moment.

Withholding The Baby

The candidate who kisses babies right and left, in this election, an unusually popular figure—at least on paper. Humorists have been busy bringing him to life. How far he is still to be seen at work in the field of his constituency is less certain. Women, diverted from the morning shopping by the voice from the loud-speaker in the van, might not be pleased if a smiling figure with a fat rosette in its buttonhole leapt out and made a bee-line for every pram in sight.

Times change, and this traditional custom may no longer be as common as it was a method of wooing the floating voter. Students of electoral form, so ready with forecasts about what we are all thinking and secretly planning to do on the day, have neglected the influence of baby kissing. No graphs have been published to show what percentage of votes which party has gained or lost by its attention, or lack of it, to the voteless young entry into democratic society. The field being thus left open for unscientific guesswork, an opinion may be risked that a candidate, especially if he is a man, would nowadays, by mass baby kissing, cause the floating vote to steer away from him as fast as a Channel swimmer.

The heyday of this avuncular practice came before the fondest mama had been taught that her baby at birth should more or less be kept in a glass case and that, thereafter, free-for-all kissing was barred. Candidates who forget this, are, it may be surmised, only a little less out of date than those who fear that rotten eggs—another staple of undying election jokes—will be thrown at them. Recollection of past fun and games lingers on long after the reality.

Until recently, the peril of being made a target for dead cats was regularly brought up as one of the penalties of seeking election to Parliament. So robust an expression of political faith would seem natural in a Rowlandson drawing, but the rough and tumble of Regency politics strikes a more fastidious generation as being merely barbarous. A highly scientific electorate of the future may come to think the same about the babies.

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Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Two (continued) (All Rights Reserved)

SALARY AND WAGE LEVELS

There seems to be another cause of justifiable dissatisfaction among working people in the Maritimes and particularly on Prince Edward Island—wage levels. Labor is generally on Prince Edward Island is not organized; and although the number of workers may be small the problems and abuses are as great proportionately as anywhere else. It is only the railway, packing house (in one plant) and dock workers who have made any progress in organizing to protect their interests. Skilled tradesmen can earn, on the average, wages about twice as high in Central Canada. Wages for unskilled labor follow the same pattern.

A short survey reveals that motor mechanics and carpenters receiving 85c to 95c an hour in Charlottetown (although the public is charged \$1.30 to \$1.50 an hour for their work), may earn \$1.60 in Ontario. Two qualified steam-fitters who were paid 85c an hour in Charlottetown recently went to Ontario and started at a wage of \$1.80 an hour. The same trend holds true for most of our best and most progressive tradesmen, laborers and professional men.

Our school teachers, business men and professional men, as well as clerks and stenographers are leaving because of the disheartening conditions here. Practically nothing is done to relieve the situation or arrest the trend. Even our Government is paying sub-standard wages to its junior officials and workers. Capable office girls and clerks stay long enough to get some training and to save money for a one-way ticket to central or western Canada. How can efficiency or progress be expected under such conditions?

Turning our attention from the laborers and wage-earners, our professional and business men are not working for much less than in other places. Many of our local business men who have the ability to make a personal success of their work and who assume a great deal of responsibility, are earning from \$8,000 to \$12,000 a year. Some of them deserve criticism, for they are not paying their employees a just wage. It is not exceptional to find a business firm where the manager's wage is in the \$10,000 bracket while heads of families on the staff receive only \$23.00 per week.

The average wage of junior secretaries and clerks and office workers in the employ of our Provincial Government is so much below the average that it is advisable not to put it into print. Local employers seem to be unaware that, usually, the higher paid worker is the better investment in the long run, and that this policy will encourage further training and efficiency. Why drag down the standard of our alert and progressive young people by maintaining a wage level based on the earning power of the untrained and inefficient minority?

Another question arises here: Can our employers pay no more? Is it personal greed, selfishness or indifference on the part of employers, which deprives workers of their just due? Or are wage earners just too weak to bargain? What protection or encouragement

but if so, it is still far away and hope remains for any baby that likes being kissed by strangers. Whether such babies exist is a mystery. Almost all women like kissing a baby, but most men, while agreeing that they are warm and soft little beasts, prefer to admire them from a reasonably polite distance.

Sooner or later the psychologists will discover the point of view of the baby. It is hard indeed to believe that he or she looked forward to an election in the good old days. There must have been something alarming about the strange face of, say, a bearded Whig looming over the pram and a voice, husky with disputation on the hustings, breathing endearments.

Suspicion even arises that, had babies who went through that ordeal been able when grown up to consult a psychoanalyst, he would have fished up a nightmare vision of a politician from their unconscious minds, and found in it the cause, if not of their general antipathy to politics, at least of their fanatical opposition to the politician's side.

Old Charlottetown

The new screw - propelled Merlin Con. Corbin, 3 days from Halifax, arrived here on Thursday evening, at an early hour, having on board troops for this place and Cape Breton. After landing Capt. John Gage Lecky, Lieut. Hume, and Commissary Booth, lady and child, together with 83 men, rank and file, of the 38th or 1st Staffordshire Regt. and taking on board the Company of the 97th Regt. stationed here during the past twelve months, under the command of Capt. Pattinson, and the Rev. Mr. Botterill, Wesleyan Missionary, and family, and others, she left the port again in the evening of the day on which she arrived, for Sydney, Cape Breton. I am, Sir, etc. CRITIC.

The Poet's Corner

WINTER GARDEN

Though I plan and labor from April till fall, The garden is really not mine at all. The sparrows in dusty working clothes Have followed its course from seed to rows, From harvest to bonfire all year through; There is nothing unknown to them I can do. They are out here now, huddled and gray On fence and thicket, the winter day Still barely begun, the light unclear; They hop and flutter and pick and peer. The ground like stone, frost on the stubble. There must be something there worth the trouble. There must be value I cannot reckon To make them search and examine and beckon. They in themselves, I might decide. Are a sort of crop of the winter tide. Though only assessable in the mass From the sheltered side of a window glass, But knowing how practical is the sparrow, To make the garden as mine as I can get. From wind and winter cold and wet. —Charles Maland