

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa, The Thomson Co. Ltd. Editor and Manager, Ian A. Burnett. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 1954

Brotherhood

Prime Minister St. Laurent in expressing hope for better relations between India and Pakistan was careful not to give any sign of an intention to interfere. He told his hosts something of the diverse origin, culture and geography faced by the Canadian people and the way in which we manage to get along with one another and with the powerful United States as a neighbour.

His message, by intention or otherwise, was very much apropos Brotherhood Week the celebration of which commences tomorrow. Neighbours should try to behave as such but when they fall out it is apt to be adding fuel to the fire for outsiders to interfere.

In this Province we are not faced with the grosser types of unneighbourliness, such as racial and religious intolerance, but there can be no doubt that we could improve the quality of the spirit of neighbourliness to the point where it could indeed be called brotherhood.

The churches call for such a spirit and indeed it is exemplified in the widespread support of charities, athletics and community functions. There is much that can be done, however, to broaden the views of those in particular occupations, living in particular localities, having particular interests, and to make us all realize that our own viewpoint cannot altogether be shared by anyone else but that every viewpoint has validity for someone and importance in the general scheme of things.

Salacious Literature

A committee of the United States Congress named to investigate the subject of salacious literature reported some time ago that the large scale publication of such matter "threatens the values of the nation." After referring to salaciousness as "big business" the report went on to say: "The extent to which the profit motive has brushed aside all generally accepted standards of decency and good taste and substituted inferior standards has become not only a national disgrace but a menace to our civic welfare." Concluding, after much study of the situation and many consultations with civic and religious groups, that censorship is not the answer to the problem, the committee suggested that "only elimination of the potential market for salacious books and magazines will stem the flood." Further, in the committee's opinion, "not lack of legislation but failure to enforce laws now on the books is mainly responsible for existing conditions."

There is not much doubt that a situation somewhat similar to that revealed by the American committee exists in this country. Here, as in the United States, a long-range educational campaign is required; it can be presumed that any such effort will meet with active support and co-operation of civic and religious groups on all levels. This, in the long run, probably will be of more value than any form of outright censorship.

Farm Price Supports

Both in Canada and the United States there is much controversy at present over farm price support. Discussing this subject in its current issue, The Country Guide stresses the value of such supports but points out that to serve the interests of society in general and those of agriculture in particular, they must fulfil three principal functions. Their first function is to keep the reasonably efficient farm operators in production; and it is in this sense that support prices really become "floor" prices. It is common to speak of supports of this kind as guaranteeing "stop-loss" prices, but this term has little real meaning, unless costs are both specified as to kind, and known as to amount. To keep individual commodities in sufficient production on farms it is not always necessary that all costs be met; and conversely, a mere guarantee of costs will not always keep farmers producing a particular commodity.

The second function of price supports is to supplement market prices by such amounts as will encourage farmers to produce efficiently, without keeping prices high enough to create undesirable surpluses. The United States is in trouble today because of fixed and inflexible supports, when what agriculture requires is a flexible support program, which can be adjusted to meet a situation created by a threatened over- or under-supply. The third support price function, says

Country Guide, is to prevent undue price fluctuations. Reasonable movement of market prices is desirable, but undue price fluctuations are not in the best interests either of the consumer or the producer, and operate chiefly to the advantage of the speculator. The farmer operates in a part of the national economy where natural hazards are numerous and impossible to forecast. He can adjust his production only between crop, or breeding seasons. The adaptability of soil, equipment, and of the farmer himself, to shifts in crops or livestock is usually fairly limited. For the good farmer, stability is often the equivalent of security. Hence, undue price fluctuations, added to the natural hazards he must combat, are likely to find them both vulnerable and helpless.

Trade With Russia

There are formidable difficulties in the way of developing trade with the Soviet Union. Canada's products are generally of the same type as Russia's so that the economies do not naturally supplement one another. Then Canadian trade is in the hands of private firms or in some few cases semi-governmental boards. All Russian trade is carried on by the Soviet Government.

This means that no resort can be had to the courts to enforce agreements unless the Soviets are willing, a limitation that is chilling to initiative whether or not the Russians would actually take advantage of their privileged position.

At the same time trade is the life-blood of world economy and it is most unfortunate that trade between the two countries has become almost non-existent. Canada has declared her willingness to see renewed development of trade, apart from strategic materials, and now the Russian ambassador, the first in Ottawa in eight years, has expressed approval of such a development.

Without expecting too much to come of the proposals, we may welcome the fact that relations are thus being brought one step closer to normal intercourse between nations. In fact almost any step in the direction of normalcy is to be welcomed. The artificial separation caused by a difference in ideologies and even more by the Iron Curtain which blanks off a large part of mankind from any real understanding by the rest needs badly to be overcome.

Trade, even on a small scale, will contribute something to international understanding and assist both countries in achieving tolerance.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Sexagesima Sunday.

Today is the birthday of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting and the first World Chief Scout. Scouts, Cubs and others will celebrate by church parades tomorrow, the nearest Sunday.

When newspapers carry articles on Parliament, according to Senator Bradette, many seem able to be "very biased" although many also were "favorable". Alas, the "favorable" ones are also open to the charge of bias from those of a contrary view.

It is a sobering thought that more young people between 15 and 24 are killed in the more developed countries of the world, Canada being second on the list, than by any single disease. The rate per million is: Australia 300; Canada 254; United States 252; Switzerland 202; and South Africa 201.

The removal of the ceiling on compensation paid for swine and sheep slaughtered to combat epidemics and legislation enabling the Government to pay market value for the animals is only justice to the breeders whose animals are slaughtered for the protection of others. The new policy should also aid in the enforcement of animal health regulations.

William Terriss, English actor, was born this date 1847, his real name being Charles James Lewin. He was educated privately and tried several careers, serving for a time in the merchant navy. He went on the provincial stage in 1867 but soon came to London. His best parts were Squire Thornhill in "Olivia" and William in "Black-eyed Susan". He was assassinated at the stage door by a mad and unsuccessful actor.

There are serious objections to any group being given a privileged position under the Income Tax Act, the chief being perhaps that it makes comparisons quite unrealistic. The principle argument in favour of tax-exempt pay for the Reserve Army is that similar provision is made for Members of Parliament on less valid grounds. In both cases it would be better to adjust the pay scales to what is considered appropriate, having regard to the effect of taxation.

"One To Make Ready, --"



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.

"TIME" AND P. E. ISLAND

A copy of the following letter has been received by Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan from an old friend, Mr. Albert A. Gardner, of St. Lambert, Quebec, retired vice president of the Canadian National Railways. The original was written by Mr. Gardner to Mr. Henry R. Luce, editor-in-chief of Time Magazine, New York, in protest against what he regarded as a supercilious reference to this Province in a recent "Time" article: Dear Mr. Editor-in-Chief:— I have never before taken the liberty of writing higher than "The Editor", but this time I really must write you. Twentieth Century Dictionary defines the adjective "DROWSY", as meaning... Sleepy; Heavy; Dull; Inducing sleep.

Article in your February 15th issue, on page 32, refers to Prince Edward Island, as "Canada's smallest and drowsiest province." That description is fifty per cent right — and figures will prove it — and fifty per cent dead wrong! It is worse than being wrong in respect to Prince Edward Island, in "drowsiest" being a superlative term must imply that there is at least one other Canadian Province that is drowsy — although not so drowsy as the Garden of the Gulf!

Canada's record, and especially her progress within the last 20 years or so, would seem to be ample evidence that "drowsiness" is not a national characteristic. I do not think it applies to any one of our Provinces. If it does, it is certainly not to Prince Edward Island that dubious "crown" should be awarded.

Not only have Prince Edward Islanders made a wonderful success of the beautiful and fertile land with which Providence endowed them, but they have left their mark, and currently are making their mark all over the rest of Canada... and notably in your land, too.

Sleepy, then, does not fit. Nor Heavy — for they are too active in all their endeavors to run to weight. Dull? Try to get the better of any one of them in a deal, or to find better, brighter or more witty company. "Sleep inducing" — Well, in a sense their Island is. If you go there to get away from the stresses and strains of a frenetic activity, more wearing but less effective than the steady, regular Prince Edward Island tempo... But you will not just drowse, when after a day's recreation spent in any one of the Island's many offerings you go to bed. You will just sleep... and sleep well — that is if you are not upset with remorse that the charge of "drowsiness" slipped through.

Yours faithfully, NOT A PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDER

The Age Old Story

Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

ANCIENT ROCK

Canada is geologically one of the world's oldest countries, more than half of it is pre-cambrian rock.

Notes By The Way

If there is life on other planets there remains the question of how much time they devote to finding ways of destroying it. — Hamilton Spectator

South Africa now allows hunters to shoot twice as many gnus as formerly. Succumbing to an irresistible temptation, we note that this is bad news for the gnus. — Edmonton Journal

A reformatory in the United States provides TV for inmates. It is hard to tell if this is for entertainment or additional punishment. — Hamilton Spectator

There is more than a hint that people today are expecting too much for too little. That attitude often results from a boom of such proportions as we have been experiencing all across Canada with south Alberta getting its share. Canada has become great through a willingness to work and to pioneer. We should guard against aloofness which tends to slip into our thinking when times are good.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

WILD NIGHT AT SOURIS

"Between eight and nine o'clock last night, as Mr. Joseph Doyle, a well known merchant of Souris, was passing along Main Street, he was assaulted by a party of some eight or ten drunken fishermen belonging to the American schooner Orient, commanded by Capt. Charles Lee. The attack was made in the neighborhood of Mr. James Dunphy's saddle shop, and he very naturally ran outside to the assistance of Mr. Doyle, who was being handled pretty roughly. Some of the attacking party then transferred their attention from Doyle to Dunphy, using him rather badly.

"By this time quite a number of people had gathered, and the fight became general, sticks, axes, handles, etc. being freely used on both sides. After a short struggle, and the ranks of the citizenry having been increased by the arrival of reinforcements, the blood-thirsty sailors discovered that they were getting the worst of the encounter, and beat an inglorious retreat down Main Street to Morrow's corner.

"The crowd of citizens, who were by this time pretty well worked up over the affair, followed the retreating sailors as fast as they could, and succeeded in capturing several of them and putting them in the lock-up, where they were confined all night. One of the sailors, a man named Stropole, of Guysboro, N. S., fell or got struck

and things come too easy Lethbridge Herald

The atom must now fight itself loose from the chains of tight government control. By its inherent power, this dynamo of nature cuts through the arguments of those who keep everything hush-hush about the atom. We must live with it, not sit on it. — Cleveland Plain Dealer

Newfoundland, like Quebec has far more legal holidays than other Canadian provinces. In fact, Canada's newest province has 18 statutory holidays, considerably more than Alberta for instance, has. Just for the record, and in case you are interested, Newfoundlanders receive the following holidays, exclusive to their province, each year, whether they like it or not: Robbie Burns' Day, St. Patrick's Day, St. George's Day, St. John's Day, Orangemen's Day, and Regatta Day. — Lethbridge Herald

—Tomorrow's 600 mile-an-hour jetliners pose a perplexing problem for the people who have to feed passengers in flight. Heading west, such speedy craft would keep pace with the sun. A traveler boarding his plane in London at 8 a.m., for instance, would also put down in New York at 8 a.m. local time. If he were going on to Los Angeles, he'd also step out into the west coast's early morning sun. Puzzled airline dieticians wonder if the passenger should be gorged with breakfast all the way across so he'd be oriented meal-wise on arrival. And should the fellow who gets on the plane at New York be fed scrambled eggs and bacon while the London-embarking passenger gets lunch — and perhaps the gent who started in Cairo munches a steak dinner. — Wall Street Journal

on the head and was knocked over the bank near Morrow's store, falling a distance of between forty and fifty feet. He was picked up and taken to McInnis's forge in the neighborhood, and Dr. MacLean was called in. The doctor's examination developed the fact that the man's skull was badly fractured and that his death was but a question of time. Early this morning he died. In the pockets of the sailors arrested were found a number of granite stones which look as though the rald upon the people was premeditated. The remainder of the attacking party made their escape." —The Examiner, Oct. 13, 1888. In a later issue The Examiner reported that the arrested men were fined \$50 each or four months imprisonment in Georgetown jail. The inquest into the death of Stropole resulted in a verdict that the deceased came to his death "by accidentally falling over the bank east of Stones' Wharf."

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

BRITISH SOCIALISM

Tucked away on page 56 of a metropolitan newspaper is a little news item which quotes a certain European Socialist as saying that British Socialism is really not Socialism at all. What the man meant of course was that the kind of political philosophy held by British Trade Unions and the Labour Party bears little or no resemblance to the European brand which is more or less tied up with the teachings of Marx. This is perfectly true and it is something for which we ought to be thankful.

Although the Labour Party, as such, did not emerge until around 1900, British Socialism goes back a lot farther than that. Actually, it was a movement of some importance before Marx arrived on the scene; and it is interesting to recall that, although Marx based his radical theories and his book, Das Kapital, on the social situation in England, British Socialism has never had any alliance with Marxism. In fact, the men who guided the movement during the 1880's when Marxism was fast becoming a power in European politics, knew very little about either Marx or his philosophy.

Unlike most of the European Socialist Parties, the Labour Party in Britain has never believed that the splitting of society into two antagonistic classes, Capital and Labour, was inevitable. Some individuals have believed that, but the Party as a whole has not. Ramsay MacDonald stated that Labour policy was reached "not by a process of economic reasoning or from working class experience but from conceptions of right and wrong common to all classes." In the main that has remained the belief of British Socialism.

British Socialism began as a sort of subsidiary to Liberalism. Indeed, for many years, roughly up to the first world war, the Labour Party had no distinct socialistic platform. Most of the trade-unionists voted Liberal, but they were quite free to vote Conservative and some of them did. Local trade unions sometimes had a Conservative spokesman in parliament. In fact, that seemingly strange situation has existed right up to the present.

For some reason or other, the average British working man, or for that matter the average Britisher in any walk of life, has never been captivated by slogans heralding a promised Utopia. All he wants, in trade-union language, is "a fair and legitimate share of the profits of his toil." Anti-capitalist diatribes, which apparently means so much to the disciples of Marx, have never appealed to British Socialists. For one thing, they see no sense in them; for another, they just can't be bothered.

As for dialectical materialism which Marx and his associates developed and which led logically to modern Communism, this has never received any formal recognition in British trade unions. It is hard to see how it could for, historically, whatever philosophy British Socialism has had was founded on the Bible and on that unique British idea known as Fabianism. Keir Hardie, who did as much as anybody to shape early British Socialism, was in his spare time a lay preacher. So, indeed, was Ramsay MacDonald. One of the most striking things about the first socialistic speeches

in Britain was the richness of scriptural references they contained; usually, it is true, these references were used in a more literal sense than a strict interpretation of the text would warrant.

About the nearest approach to any "anti-rich" slogan was found in a speech by Hardie, and it was a quotation from the Bible: "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!" (It is only fair to say, however, that the speaker went on to explain that the words did not mean that a rich man could not enter the kingdom of God.) Unlike the Marxists, who turned to the rationalists of the French Revolution period to prove that capitalists and workmen are natural enemies, British Socialists turned to the gospels to prove that all men are brothers.

The Fabians provided most of the intellectual stimulus for British Socialism; some say they made the Labour Party the power it is. They denied that class struggle was necessary or even helpful. They insisted that Socialism was necessary for all employers as well as employees. They were convinced that eventually private ownership of industry and utilities would give place to public ownership and control, but the transfer would be a gradual and painless process. Mrs. Annie Besant, who some say was the greatest of them all, stated in one of her pamphlets: "There will never be a point at which society crosses from individualism to socialism; the change is ever going forward."

Today, as anyone can see, the purposes identical with that of the Conservatives. There really is very little to choose between them; they may and do differ in methods; in social assumptions they speak with the same voice or, at any rate, in much the same tone.

The Poet's Corner

BETHOVEN SYMPHONY

Sweet sounds, oh, beautiful music, do not cease! Reject me not into the world again. With you alone is excellence and peace. Mankind made plausible, his purpose plain. Enchanted in your air benign and shrewd, With limbs a-sprawl and empty faces pale, The spiteful and the stingy and the rude Sleep like the scullions in the fairytale. This moment is the best the world can give! The tranquil blossom on the tortured stem. Reject me not, sweet sounds; oh, let me live, Till Doom espy my towers and scatter them, A city spell-bound under the aging sun. Music my rampart, and my only one. —Edna St. Vincent Millay.

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