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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1954

Super-Penitentiary

Since the rioting at Kingston Penitentiary last August the idea has been mooted that there should be a central penal institution for prisoners who are not amenable to discipline in the regular penitentiaries.

Human nature is not greatly different wherever you look. The existence of prisons does not prevent the commission of crime and it would be asking too much of such a place of punishment for unruly prisoners to expect it to clear up disciplinary problems in the prisons.

At the same time the system would not clear the regular penitentiaries of the more dangerous criminals. Most of them are apt to appear model prisoners rather than persistent challengers of authority.

It will be convenient to have a place to which to ship prisoners who obviously do not fit in with a penitentiary run on ordinary lines. It may well simplify the problem of treating individual prisoners in the way best suited to their eventual re-establishment.

Dr. Toynebee's Optimism

Since the publication some years ago of the first volume of his great work, "A Study of History," Dr. Arnold Toynbee has been given unquestioned place among the master historians of all time.

Dr. Toynebee's optimism springs from profound Christian convictions. He has never minimized the dangers, or misinterpreted the warning signals along the road to world peace.

It was to be expected, after the crash over Moose Jaw, that flying regulations would be tightened up. It will be a considerable relief to many fliers and operators that while various altitudes are allocated to aircraft according to the course they are flying, there has been no general ban on crossing the track of scheduled airlines.

Souris has a head start in developing the fast-growing fisheries industry in this Province. It may be assumed, however, that other ports will not be slow in seeking a share in the wealth of the Gulf, the possibilities of which, as a speaker at the Souris Board of Trade meeting observed, have hardly been scratched yet.

The improvement of standards of eggs and poultry products is the objective of the newly-formed organization of P. E. I. egg graders. The aim is a laudable one but it has been suggested that an important way in which it can be advanced is by a reduction in the number of eligible members.

tray the extent of their debt to Christianity in the passion with which they deny it. Despite many superficial signs to the contrary, Dr. Toynebee sees, in our post-war generation, "the sap of life visibly flowing once again through all the branches of our Western Christendom; and perhaps, after all, the next chapter of our Western history may not follow the lines of the final chapter in the history of Hellenism.

Dr. Toynebee's latest words indicate that he believes more firmly than ever in this alternative, with a belief based on further intensive study of the whole 6,000-year span of human history.

Laugh And Be Well

Science at one time seemed to specialize in showing up the ignorance and error of traditional founts of learning. That phase has passed in many fields. Archaeologists have discovered that popular tradition and folk tales are a valuable source of information.

Medical men have come to realize the importance of a sound mind in a sound body, and now a statistical study reveals that an unhappy person is apt to be an unhealthy individual. A Cornell University study reveals that one-third of workers account for 75 to 80 per cent of time lost through illness.

This one-third consists generally of people who are unhappy, frustrated, often upset in emotional feelings or moods. They suffer three to 10 times as much minor and major illness and surgery as those who lose least time from work.

The recipe for good health, or at least a good chance for health, would seem to be smile and have the world smile with you. Just how to succeed in doing so is something else again, but it seems clear that whether or not misery loves company, it certainly makes for poor health. It would seem that there should be a natural alliance between the medical profession and the entertainment world, using the term in its broadest possible sense and perhaps stretching it a bit.

EDITORIAL NOTES

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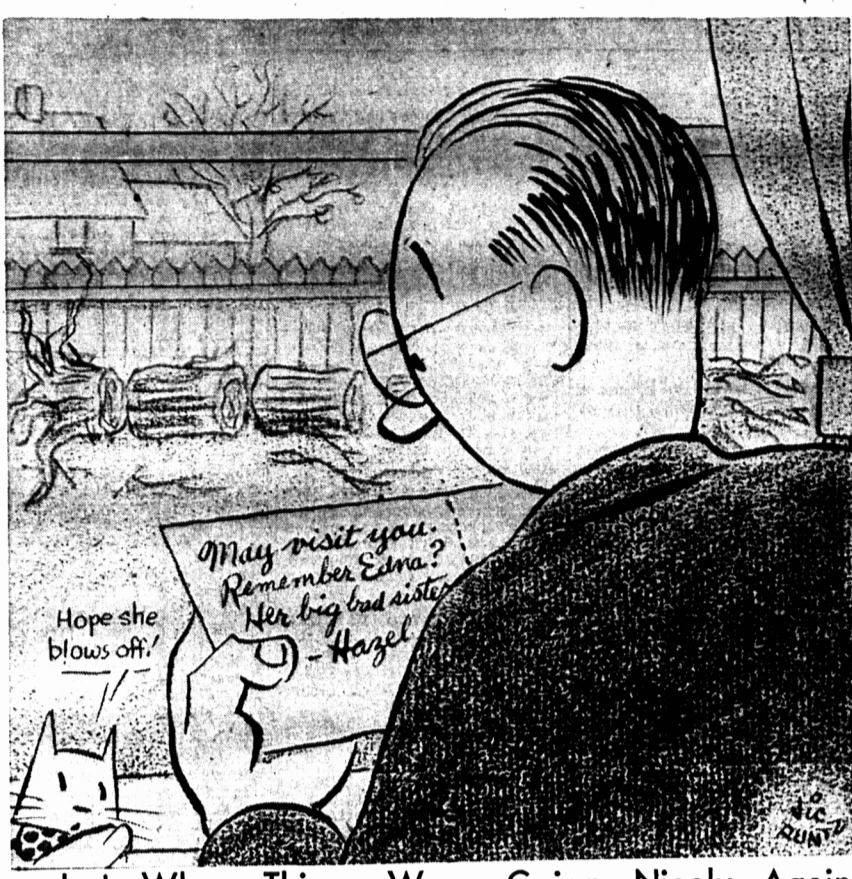
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Just When Things Were Going Nicely Again

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

POTATO CONTROVERSY

Sir,—On the present controversial subject of potato marketing I would suggest that your paper insist on all contributions to the Public Forum be published only over the signature of the author.

LESLIE SIMMONS President of the Potato and Turnip Dealers Association, Summerside.

POTATO MARKETING BOARD

Sir,—On Oct. 4, 1954, I wrote the Chairman of the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board, Mr. Donald A. MacDonald, as follows: "Mr. Donald A. MacDonald, Manager, P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board, 123 Kent Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

"A person has to be stupid in order to be a philosopher." This statement won't stand up under analysis, as there is a great deal more stupidity in the world than happiness. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

It would be an expensive and complicated process to weed out drivers who are psychologically unfit to be on the road. But the cost would be nothing compared to the ghastly toll of life and property exacted every year by drivers who should never have been licensed in the first place. — London Free Press.

Avery Brundage, president of the International Olympic Games committee, recently made a trip to Russia, and on his return he spoke of America's "coddled and cushioned youth huddled over television sets." He had been impressed by a sports parade in Moscow, featuring 34,000 participants performing "like clockwork" under Communist banners.

Our constitution has given every Canadian the right to own a rifle or shot gun without the benefit of permit or registration. Let us not usurp this right by making murder weapons of them. Make absolutely certain you know what you're shooting at this coming hunting season before you squeeze the trigger. Statistics show hunting is still one of the safest sports. Let's keep it that way. — Delhi News-Record.

Any one who knows Mr. Percy Phillip, as we do, will be certain that his account of a conversation with the "presence" of the late Prime Minister Mackenzie King was given in absolute sincerity. Mr. Phillip is a calm erudite and exceedingly civilized gentleman who served The New York Times with distinction in many parts of the world and reached retirement age some two years ago as its Ottawa correspondent. He has remained vigorous in body and mind. When he says—as he did in a remarkable week-end broadcast—that he has spoken with a man four years dead, he honestly and intelligently believes that he has; he is not setting out to create a sensation nor to publicize himself. — Hamilton Spectator.

Doane & Co., Chartered Accountants. After about ten weeks of almost continuous endeavour, I succeeded in obtaining the three annual financial statements of the Board up to and including that of May 31, 1953, together with the auditors' reports. Each of these statements bears a similar notation. Some of the auditors' reports reflect that the Board's financial statements do not show the true liabilities and, hence, a wrong surplus or deficit as the case may be.

Financial statements are time honored documents that are supposed to give only indisputable facts and reflect the true financial position of the organization. They are supposed to be readily available to any member of the organization. Through them, together with explanations when requested, the members are assisted in assaying the efficiency of the management.

In considering whether or not to support the compulsory marketing of potatoes through one organization a study of the full financial statements of the organization can assist. Any organization is no stronger than the confidence existing between the management and the members.

I am, Sir, etc. AUSTIN A. SCALES Freetown, P. E. I.

(Since receiving Mr. Scales' letter he has telephoned us to say that a letter, dated October 13, has been received from Mr. MacDonald in reply to his of October 4. The letter says in part: "At the last Board meeting when this whole matter was discussed no indication whatever was given that the personal views I expressed were not endorsed by the Potato Marketing Board members."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Someone has said that an atheist finds the real impossibility of his position when he is grateful for life and has nobody to thank. — Sarnia Observer.

How mean can people be? At a farm fire down Toronto way a few days ago a great crowd gathered and police had to protect the orchard from looters who stole baskets and carried them away filled with apples. No wonder farmers are sometimes provoked at the depredations of city (and town) folk who seem to think that anything growing on a farm is common property. — Goderich Signal-Star.

We were beginning to think that Osnabrueck, Germany, must be a bout one of the healthiest places in the world. We received this impression from some statistics which showed that an unusually large number of its inhabitants were living to observe golden wedding anniversaries. Now it seems that the city administration was becoming curious about the same situation. And then the balloon burst. Otto Strackeljah, a municipal employee whose job it was to report the names of couples fifty years married, confessed that he had faked 198 anniversaries in order to pocket the money the city paid jubilee couples as gifts. — Saint John Telegraph Journal.

The courts are getting tough on those convicted of assaults on a police, and it is timely they should do so. There have been too many cases these past few years of hoodlums attempting to rough up officers who were only doing their duty. In Toronto Magistrate W. W. McKeown sent two men to jail for a year for assaulting a police officer. In Windsor Magistrate Angus W. MacMillan sent one to jail for 10 days. These sentences are disparate, but probably the degree of the assaults differed. Police officers are the protectors of us all. They should not be molested while doing their duty. This doesn't mean they are entitled to unnecessary force in pursuance of their duties. It does mean they are entitled to the support of our courts. — Windsor Star.

Women are not only living longer than men, a fact known for some time, but are adding with the passage of the years to the disparity between the life expectancies of the two sexes, according to the latest table published the other day by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Life expectancy at birth reached 68.3 years for males in 1951 and 70.8 years for females. The expectancy increased appreciably for a child who had passed the first year of life being, in all, 69.3 for the male and 73.3 for the female. Women, in short, are expected to live four years longer than men. — Sherbrooke Record.

October, in eight of the past ten years, has been Ontario's worst month for fatal traffic accidents. Fall and early winter months are the year's most critical period for motor accidents, with October usually the worst month in numbers killed and in deaths in relation to mileage travelled by motor vehicles. In contrast to October, April might be called the "safest" month for motoring. Motorists in April travel about as many miles as in October but the April mileage death rate is less than half as high, as the October mileage death rates. — Galt Reporter.

It is a trifle more than 40 years ago that at a critical stage in the Battle of the Marne, General Gallieni, according to a tradition mobilized every taxicab in Paris for the purpose of rushing aid to the hard pressed French armies faltering before the German onslaught on the west front. Whether or not the taxicabs were used to the extent indicated, the reinforcements got there in time, and turned the tide. Recently it was proposed at Paris, as an item in commemoration of the victory, to round up the Renaults and other small cars used on the great occasion and give them an added day of glory as part of a parade. To the surprise of all concerned, the most careful and persistent search failed to disclose a single one of those historic taxi cabs. — Woodstock Sentinel Review.

The Passing Scene

By Observer

LOOKING AFTER THE PRESIDENT

The Shakespearean declaration, "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown" is not perhaps as apt these days as it was in the great poet's time; for the few kings and queens who are left do not have as much direct responsibility for public affairs as did their royal forbears. A n.d., generally speaking, they are held in much higher esteem. Our own monarch and her family appear to be safe from serious molestation almost anywhere, although, of course, police precautions are not neglected, for there is no telling where or when some criminally disposed fanatic might go "berserk."

However, according to an interesting report recently released, the head of state more likely to be annoyed, even endangered by malicious persons is not a hereditary ruler but an elected executive, the President of the United States. Only rarely does a threat to the President assume serious proportions; in fact, in recent history actual attempts on the life of the President have been very few.

There was, for instance, the attempted assassination of President Truman by Puerto Rican extremists in 1950. At that time the would-be assassin actually got inside of Blair House where Mr. Truman was staying temporarily and succeeded in killing one guard before they were overpowered. Two or three such attacks were made, and frustrated, during the incumbency of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In the past, before security measures had been brought to their present strength, three Presidents died from violence of the assassin. Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Garfield and Mr. McKinley. President Eisenhower thus far has not been exposed to actual violence, but the danger is always only a little distance away. In fact, according to the Secret Service report, a threat of bodily harm is made against him every six hours of every day in the year. Last year approximately 1400 threats were investigated; the year before was even worse, the total number being 1656.

These threats run all the way from the irresponsible and probably harmless chatter of an ordinary drunk, who at that particular moment doesn't know who happens to be in the White House, to the definite intention of a man crazed by fanaticism or Nationalist fervour. Most of the threats come from those who have a congenital hatred of all constitutional authority; and probably get as much pleasure out of loud, boastful talk as they would from an actual attempt at assassination. Nevertheless, each threat, however foolish it may sound, is investigated by the United States Secret Service.

In most cases the President himself is unaware of the nature of the threats against his person. He knows what everybody else knows, namely, that four times every day somebody is vowing to do him physical harm; but the details of the threats and the measures taken to avert them are not, where necessary, to tell them, are left to the Secret Service Department and its army of officials.

It is said that the present President shows no outward signs of anxiety; nevertheless, the fact that once in every six hours someone is dreaming of violence against him must be a source of some uneasiness. Further, the strict and manifold precautions taken for his safety, while they obviously are necessary, must be irksome to a man who is noted for his unostentatious and simple manner. There ever he is at any minute of the day or night — even in his own rooms — security guards are always within immediate reach.

When he leaves a place he is accompanied by a Secret Service man, usually by a number of them. The chief of the White House Secret Service detail, Mr. James Rowley, is almost always at the President's side. Within the vicinity are other guards; they watch windows, look for signs of extraordinary activity in the crowd, have an eye to any hiding place, however inconspicuous, and even measure the facial expressions of individuals who may be close by. Mr. Rowley and his assistants say that President Eisenhower, being a man of regular and predictable habits, presents no great security problem. He is an easy man to guard. Mr. Truman, however, was a bit different. While he cooperated with his guards, as all Presidents do — after all, it's for their own good — he had some little habits which occasionally took his guards "off guard."

For instance, he used to get up very early most mornings — sometimes long before dawn — and rush off on a brisk hike; so brisk that his guards had all they could do to keep up with him. It is also rumoured that he liked nothing better than to slip out a back door, instead of walking sedately through the front one, as a President should and as security officers always expected him to do.

Before he President sets out on a vacation or a speaking tour everything is done to ensure his safety. Railway tracks are inspected, and guarded at every mile. Hotels are searched from top to bottom and each employee is checked for possible violent intent. All food is prepared under the direction of a specially trained agent and only hand-picked employees are permitted to handle it at any time.

When he plays golf — as the present President does every chance he gets — not all the apparent golf players are there for that purpose. Some of them carry rifles in their golf bags; others have radios in their pockets — all others are hidden in bushes and hedges — just in case. When he goes fishing — as every President must, if he is to be a good one — most likely than not the mild looking man who is casting a fly a bit further down stream is more intent on watching the President's movements than on luring an elusive rainbow to his creel.

Elizabeth Bohm in the Christian Science Monitor.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

ENGLISH MAIL-BAG

"We have the pleasure of congratulating our readers that through the exertions of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, a separate Mail Bag is from henceforth to be made up at the Post Office in England for this Island; and it is most earnestly to be wished that the House of Assembly will seriously take the matter into consideration and further the designs of the parent Government, by devising some plan for the sure and speedy conveyance of the Mails after their arrival at Pictou. If this desirable object is accomplished, we may receive the Mail in twenty-two hours after its arrival in Halifax. It is of little use to us that the steamers arrive in or twelve days, if we have to wait nearly that time for its transmission from Halifax to this Island, a distance of about 160 miles."

—Royal Gazette, Jan. 26, 1841.

The Age Old Story

As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets, saying to a stock, Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth; for they have turned their backs unto me, and not their face: but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us.

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DEC. 31, 1954, IS THE LAST DATE FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR VETERANS INSURANCE FROM VETERANS DISCHARGED BEFORE DEC. 31, 1944, AND OTHER ELIGIBLE PERSONS. VETERANS DISCHARGED LATER MAY APPLY UP TO TEN YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THEIR DISCHARGE.

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For further information and application forms, write to: Supt., Veterans Insurance, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Ottawa, Canada.