

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, AUG. 25, 1951

Street Widening

Both Charlottetown and Summerside are going in for street widening to facilitate parking and allow traffic to flow more freely. The task is simple enough where the original layout allowed for generous space between the lines of buildings and it means only that there is rather less space for sidewalks and lawns.

Where due to poor or no planning the space available is small, it is practically impossible to make any improvement. Before an area has been built up it is easy and inexpensive to lay off streets conveniently. We learn the hard way that once buildings are in place the cost of correcting mistakes is prohibitive.

Town planning is not expensive, it is costly not to plan.

Secret Law - Making

One of the more objectionable aspects of modern government is the frequency with which resort is had by members of the cabinet and bureaucrats alike to orders-in-council, rules and regulations which have the force of law. The dangers inherent in this practice revolve mainly around the fact that what is really happening is that Parliament is delegating its law-making powers to the executive branch of government.

The best safeguard against the abuse of authority by those having power to make rules and regulations is that of publicity. Publication of every rule and every order exposes the exercise of power by the Government to the scrutiny of Parliament and of the people.

A recent order-in-council approved by the Cabinet in Ottawa does violence to this principle in providing that the Government is no longer required to publish all rules and regulations made under the Emergency Powers Act. Orders addressed to particular individuals or corporations, orders considered likely to prejudice the security of the country if made public, orders affecting the operation of the Canadian Wheat Board, and a number of other categories of rules and regulations, may now be made and acted upon in utter secrecy.

This, surely, is a dangerous departure from the traditional concept of responsible government. For, as the law stands, a cabinet minister or even a bureaucratic official, may issue an order affecting the personal or business life of any individual or corporation in the country, without assigning reason for the order, and without the right of appeal on the part of the individual or corporation affected. Lord Hewart's phrase "The New Despotism" aptly fits such a mistaken concept of democracy. Nor is there any justification for such arbitrary exercise of power on the part of Ottawa. Law-making by the executive is bad enough. Secret law-making without the knowledge or consent of Parliament is little short of totalitarianism.

Old Age Pension Hurdles

The old folks in Canada will need to have long memories, remarks the Montreal Gazette, to answer some of the questions on the application form for old age pensions. Item number 11, though not the worst, is still rather difficult. It requires that the applicant state every place he has lived, whether in Canada or outside Canada, since 1931. And he must give not only the year, but the month of every change of residence.

But item number 10 may be more difficult. It requires the applicant to state all periods of residence he has lived in Canada from his birth up to 1931, and the year of every change he has made. Any old persons who happened to have moved (or been moved) about a great deal in their earlier years might have quite a time of it trying to recall all the changing scenes of their life, and the exact year of each transition.

If items 10 to 11 are hard on the applicants themselves, they are even harder on the "two persons" who are to sign item 12. These two persons are, by their signatures, to testify that they "have knowledge of the facts of your residence, as given in Questions 10 and 11."

That is to say the applicant, who must

be at least 70 this year, must find two persons who are old enough to have known him not only for the last 20 years, but since the year of his appearance in this world, or at least in this country. These two persons must also be in a position to certify as to both the place and year of every change of residence in Canada before 1931, and the place, year and month of every change inside and outside Canada since 1931. Where are two such phenomenal persons to be found? Members of Parliament who have not seen these forms will have something to ask questions about when the House resumes business in October.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Zinoviev and Kamenev, Russian revolutionaries, were executed this date 1936 after being convicted of being involved in a plot against Stalin's life. After the death of Lenin the two became associated with Trotsky against Stalin.

Tomorrow, the fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Red Cross sending blankets to tropical Jamaica is rather unusual.

Give a dog a bad name and it sticks, as the Sons of Freedom in B.C. realize.

Making news reel pictures of lobster packing should give the industry a boost.

Dr. Cedric Boulter, Island born archaeologist, has made a name for himself by his explorations in Greece. May he be long spared to continue the important work he has undertaken.

The fisheries investigations and convention here should lead to further development of our second main industry. It is enterprise that led to the adoption of dragners, and further enterprise is necessary to capitalize on the important suggestions and recommendations offered by experts at this week's meetings.

Readers' attention is directed to Dr. J. A. Clark's "Newsy Notes" in this issue, in which he deals with a problem affecting the marketing of our turnip cash crop.

The New Year is the usual time for resolutions but right now would be a good time for all having anything to do with catering to tourists to take stock and resolve to provide them with more fresh fish, fruit and vegetables, to promote specialties which they are unlikely to get at home and to create an atmosphere which will leave them with pleasant memories.

The Communists having broken off negotiations three hours after an alleged "incident", it is fortunate that Vice-Admiral Joy put their many breaches of the neutral area on official record, even though not taking advantage of them to end the talk.

Now that we have loafing barns where cattle feed themselves and in the West an insecticide sprayer which cattle can operate for themselves, it only remains for someone to devise a means by which the cows can milk themselves.

Britain is examining the question of whether it should be permissible for a man to marry his dead brother's wife. A curiosity of Canadian legislation is the Dominion Act of 1927 which permits a man to marry his deceased wife's sister or a daughter of such sister, but oddly enough, says nothing about a daughter of a deceased wife's brother.

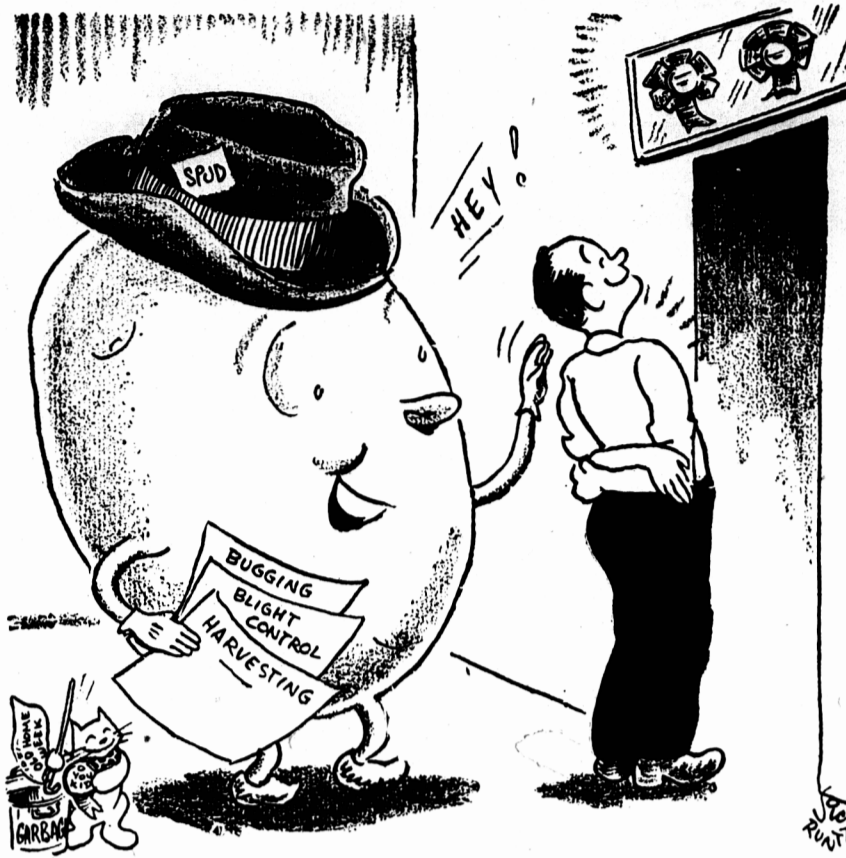
Canada finally has a standard kilogram to serve as an exact basis for the measurement of mass by the metric system. For those interested in comparative rather than legal weights, a kilogram equals one litre of water at 4° C. or 2.205 lbs.

The technical difficulties would be great but Canada would really be linking British and American military efforts if we could develop rifle ammunition with a soft driving band, or otherwise, which could be used interchangeably in the .280, .300 or .303 rifles.

Forty tons of frozen fish, at a temperature close to zero, is on its way in two new type refrigerator cars from Vancouver to Toronto and Montreal. If the shipment proves successful it should be even more practical for the shorter haul from the Maritimes.

Great Britain maintained her high figure of exports to Canada in 1950, as shown by a recent Ministry of Works report concerning the building trade. Export of glass totalled \$5,300,000, cement \$1,800,000, sanitary ware \$590,000, and glazed tiles \$290,000.

Current Bid For Attention



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.

OLD STANHOPE CEMETERY

Sir, I was very much interested in reading your report of the re-discovery of a small, old graveyard at Stanhope, P. E. I. which truly had not been lost or forgotten, but shall I say neglected because of age. It must be at least 160 years old, although those who were buried there were not only the emigrants from Argyleshire, Scotland—the late Harry Lauder's birthplace. (How sweetly he used to sing "Mary of Argyle"! Besides the American fishermen you mention—sailors who were drowned in what was called the American Storm—there were also some of the sons and daughters of the emigrants who were born in Prince Edward Island.

It appears to me that the graveyard must have been larger than is indicated in the figures in your report. Very few now living can tell the facts. In the 1880's the people of Brackley, a party of the relatives of the first settlers, exhumed and removed a number of the caskets to the new cemetery at Brackley Point. I saw that procession of express wagons pass through Covehead, on the way to Brackley Point cemetery, as a school boy. The number I cannot say; perhaps twenty.

The old graveyard is situated near the seashore, on a slope of sandy beach. A low ridge of sand-hills separates it from the sea. Stanhope Lane is the road mentioned in your report, 200 yards west of the graveyard. I can recall the invigorating smell of the old Boyver homestead, later Hodgson's. I believe Robert Hodgson lived across the lane which runs from the Stanhope school-house down to the sea, perhaps one-half mile.

Robert Auld was the name of the man mentioned as having been killed in the sawmill. Auld's mill was at Covehead; there were no sawmills at Stanhope, only threshing mills. Robert Auld was wearing a woolen scarf round his neck at the time, which became entangled in two large wooden cog-wheels; and he was dragged in between the cogs, crushing his chest. I have always understood that Stanhope was named after the schooner here from Scotland—the Auld's Browns, Boyvers, Fosters, Higginses, Lawsons, McCallums, McMillans, Shaws, etc. Among those buried in that first small graveyard were my grandmother, Mrs. Catherine Lawson Shaw, and her two daughters Catherine and Margaret.

I am eighty-four years of age now and do not pretend to remember all the facts. But the information I have given is authentic as far as it goes.

I am, Sir, etc., A FORMER ISLANDER Vancouver, B. C.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

EXCITING WHALE HUNT ON THE HILLSBOROUGH

The Examiner of Oct. 25, 1877, reported the appearance of a large whale in the Hillsborough River. On the following day it furnished its readers with the following dramatic account of the mammal's capture.

"The excitement of Wednesday's exploring expedition was fresh yesterday morning when a small, but lively, party started for the whaling grounds on board the steamer 'Southport', at three o'clock. Among the party were Hon. J. C. Pope, Hon. William Welsh, and Dr. Jenkins—these gentlemen directing the expedition. The tide was low at the outlet, and it being very dark, the steamer was obliged to lay to at Appltree wharf. Here was commenced the inversion of the scriptural prediction by ingeniously transforming rusty scythes into harpoons. When these instruments were completed, the transformer was of opinion that they were equal to explosive bars, torpedoes, or any of the modern inventions of whale killing.

"After lying at anchor for over an hour, a start was made. The directors set every man on the lookout for game. Every ripple was watched with attention, and every dark spot over the bow was said to be the whale, but in time would prove to be a hay stack, an oyster smack, or such like. Time was passed in seeing imaginary monsters, until passing Hagarty's wharf. Here was heard the bang of the rifle, and presently the fin of the monster was discovered moving at a rapid rate along the surface.

"About half-past eight o'clock the steamer arrived at close quarters with the long-watched game. Boats were quickly launched. The whale passed in advance of the steamer; but a few shots changed his course and he dashed off at a rapid rate down the river. A lively chase was then given, and the boats succeeded in heading and turning him a little. Hagarty's wharf. He passed the steamer pretty slowly, with the boats close in the rear. Here he received a volley that quickened his pace, but he stopped to view his position midway between Hagarty's and Cranberry wharves.

"There he was surrounded by the boats, and apparently he withered by the constant volleys of bullets levelled at him. He supposed to be the tenderest part of his carcass. The 'harpoon' was now applied but with little success. When four or six volleys were discharged into his sides he suddenly moved upwards and came to a stand near Cranberry wharf. He was again surrounded and peppered with bullets for over ten minutes. Again he retreated and went on the flats at the mouth of the Pisiquid River.

"After several volleys were discharged in his forepart he became exhausted and keeled over on his side. "The 'Southport', which had grounded below Cranberry wharf, came sailing in tow. A short time elapsed and he became as lively as ever, and by his movements it was believed he intended taking the steamer in tow. However, she was hauled to an after some loud discussion, it was decided to take the whale by the tail. He was hauled ashore, a boat launched, and the work of torture commenced. The 'harpoon' (a six foot scythe) was gently enter-

The Age-Old Story

And, behold, there cometh one of the rules of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet, and besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him. . . . While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?

As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe. . . . And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

Drink And Death To The Unfortunate Pigeons

(BBC News Letter) Sam Pollock gives a broadcast called "News From Home" over BBC. In a recent edition he gave an account of the drastic steps now being taken by the Town Council of Leven, in Fifeshire, to get rid of the two hundred-odd pigeons which roost in the Town Hall's clock-tower. So grave has the pigeon menace become that the borough's official rat-catcher has been told to ignore his usual prey and concentrate on higher game. The rat-catcher has been issued with a dozen bottles of the best Scotch whisky with which to encompass the pigeon's downfall. Their food is to be soaked in this heady brew and when they are completely under its influence, their crops laden with whisky-sodden oats, it is expected that the intoxicated birds will be comparatively easy to catch. "If the ruse succeeds," said Pollock, "it will make an excellent parable on the fate that awaits those who fall too easily to the lure of liquor."

ed and was driven into his side to the hill. Next a red-hot iron poker was applied to the 'blow hole'. This caused him to give one and his last blow.

"Now came the work of taking him by the tail. A lasso was made with the tail, which was fastened thereto. By this means he was tied to the steamer; but at the first roll, the rope snapped, and he went again on the flats. A four and a half inch new manilla rope was then, with great difficulty, fastened to his left fin. He was then towed and made fast to the steamer, blowing, whining, and in an agonizing state. The blood from the bullets completely coloured the water for several yards around. After flapping and wriggling for a short time, he lay over as if dead.

"The steamer was then started with the catch in tow. A short time elapsed and he became as lively as ever, and by his movements it was believed he intended taking the steamer in tow. However, she was hauled to an after some loud discussion, it was decided to take the whale by the tail. He was hauled ashore, a boat launched, and the work of torture commenced. The 'harpoon' (a six foot scythe) was gently enter-

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Notes By The Way

Applied science marches on and the world becomes a better and safer place because of it: they have just found a metal which has the high virtue of being able to arrest what happens when an unfortunate gets a dose of poison ivy. It is something called zinc-iron. It is something called zinc-iron with some aluminum in it and the fire that is lit in the human skin by poison ivy goes out and the watery blisters dry up, all inside twenty-four hours. Even better than that; they think that this new lotion will inoculate one against ever getting into trouble with poison ivy in the first place. —Montreal Star.

With the passing of Artur Schnabel at the age of 69 the world has lost one of the great musicians of our time. Among many, he was regarded as one of the three most outstanding pianists, the others being Rubinstein and Gieseking. But trying to pin-point the man's degree of eminence is an unprofitable business. It is sufficient to know that he brought pleasure of the most rewarding kind to millions, including a host of people who never saw him at the keyboard. Thanks to radio and phonograph, the art of Schnabel reaches a vast audience that was ever possible before those inventions. Like so many other distinguished artists — Kreisler and Paderewski among them — Schnabel had a list of compositions to his credit. But it was as the peerless interpreter of the piano music of Beethoven that he will be chiefly remembered. Some of the noblest music in the world is contained in the last three Beethoven sonatas. But these, and all the rest, remain so many lifeless marks on paper

until a performer transforms the pages into sound. The treasure house is always there, but it requires a magician like Artur Schnabel to open it. —Ottawa Citizen

The Poet's Corner

AUGUST DAYS

Dawn stands on tiptoe, just above the hills, And twines her golden hair with purple snood; Smiles at the twinkling shadows on the lake, And catches glimpses of her own gay mood.

At brilliant noon the lustrous ripples run Through amber fields, in wake of lazy breeze; Ready with fragrance stolen from the foam Of buckwheat lace, or green alfalfa freeze.

Tall spears of tassel trim the whispering corn, And garden flaunts her wares in gaudy show— Or spends a wealth of grace on pantry shelves, (The rival of the glowing orchard row.)

... These are the days of dream and labor blent, While crickets creak an endless argument. . . . —Ruth E. Scharfe in The Ottawa Journal.

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