

THE GUARDIAN

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Reassuring Prospects

It was evident from the addresses and discussions at the East Coast Fisheries Conference in Charlottetown this week that there is a very general spirit of confidence and optimism as to the future. We are, of course, living in uncertain times. But we must proceed on the assumption that the basic needs of the world will still be paramount, and nothing is more important, in peace or war, than the nation's food supply. Farming and fishing being our main sources of income in this Province, our chief concern should be in improving our methods of production, distribution and marketing by every available means.

Mr. MacNaught, who represented the Federal Minister of Fisheries at the conference, pointed out that in the past twelve months the industry in Canada as a whole reached its highest peak in terms of production and value. He interpreted this as a promising augury for the future, and indeed as the beginning of "an entirely new era, which would see the industry grow, both as a provider of good livelihoods for its workers and as a source of food for our own and world needs."

Improvements in boats and plant equipment, coupled with aggressive marketing policies, should mean many additional thousands of dollars to our fishermen. More important, they should eventually place the industry on a stable and profitable year-round basis. That has been the problem heretofore, which it is hoped will be solved by the joint efforts of all concerned.

The Recruiting Problem

Government circles in Ottawa are worried because of the disinclination of Canadians to enlist for service under the United Nations flag. For, notwithstanding the recruiting drive for active and reserve forces, the armed services do not appear to be getting the men they need.

As at December 31 (and there has been no appreciable change since) our total active forces numbered 61,779, our total reserve forces 53,084, or a grand total of 114,863. Britain, with three times Canada's population, has 800,000 men in her regular forces and 1,000,000 "national service men" who have received a year's compulsory, full-time training and are now in the reserves. She has also 500,000 men making munitions now and will have 750,000 by spring. The present breakdown of the United States forces is not available, but General Marshal, the Secretary of Defense, has requested—and will no doubt obtain—congressional approval for funds to have 2,453,000 men called up, equipped and trained within the next few months.

Based on the British figures alone, Canada should, on a proportionate basis, have 265,000 men in the regular forces and 335,000 trained reserves, or a total of 600,000. In addition, to match Britain's defense effort, we should by spring have 260,000 men making armaments.

This being so, it is more than likely that compulsory military service will become an issue at the forthcoming session of Parliament. Ex-service men's organizations are already demanding that steps be taken to meet the critical manpower shortage in the armed forces.

What the Government will do to solve the problem cannot be forecast with accuracy. Some clue as to what official policy may be is found in words uttered by Mr. St. Laurent when conscription was a thorny issue in World War II. Addressing the House of Commons on June 16, 1942, he declared, "It may be great and glorious to die for the world's salvation, for the salvation of the United Nations, for the salvation of democracy and Christian civilization; but that is the privilege of each man, a privilege he has the right to choose for himself; it is not a duty which citizenship imposes as an obligation correlative to the rights which citizenship guarantees as a privilege."

As Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent has undertaken no pledge for or against conscription. He does not need to do so. For the Government has the power, without further legislation by Parliament, to enforce conscription tomorrow under the authority of the Governor General to call for a general levy of armed forces.

nize, as never before, that the very existence of this country is threatened by the menace of Communist imperialism. They recognize this instinctively, although the Government has been singularly reluctant to recognize the extent of the danger, or to impress it upon the people. Political leadership in these perilous times involves responsibilities which can be shirked only with disastrous consequences to national unity as well to our potential war effort.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Sexagesima.

Endeavours are at long last being made to get government sponsored orders for Bruce Stewart & Co., the Wool factory and for packing factories.

\$5,000 is the modest objective of the Province-wide Boy Scouts financial drive which opens on Monday.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet, born this date 1807, died in 1882, a bust being placed in his memory in Westminster Abbey. His works are chiefly religious but lacking in psychology. They are, "Voices of The Night", "The Spanish Student", "The Poets and Poetry of Europe", "Evangeline", "The Golden Legend", "Tales of a Wayside Inn."

The Fisheries Conference seems convinced that two things are essential to the further development of the industry, namely more, and more effective, publicity of fish menus, and better freezing conditions and apparatus in the handling of both fresh and canned products. Now that it is generally known what is required, it should not be long before the defects are remedied to the advantage of all concerned.

His Majesty's Judges of various grades in England put a number of interesting decisions on record before laying off for Christmas, remarks a contemporary. A motor-cyclist on to whose machine a horse jumped over a hedge sued the horse's owner for damages and lost; hard lines, but apparently the law; a foundry-worker's wife who had booked lodgings in the Isle of Wight, and then cancelled on account of poliomyelitis in the island, was made to pay for the rooms, with costs; rather hard lines, but apparently the law; a hotel-keeper from whose parking-place a car was stolen while its owner was in having a drink was sued successfully for the price of the car, even though a notice was posted up stating that the hotel would be responsible for no loss of or damage to a patron's car; hard lines, but apparently the law. The proprietors of Haringay Arena, sued in respect of damages to a spectator struck in the face by the "puck" at an ice-hockey match, won their case; a nice point. The net result is to underline the uncertainties of the law, and the wisdom of keeping out of the courts whenever possible.

Even if an all-out Third World War does not come in the near future, North American universities must be prepared to face for many years to come the restrictions and difficulties of a nation at war. District No. 1, were told at Montebello, Que., over the week-end. At concluding sessions of the conference which brought representatives of graduate societies from members of the American Alumni Community U. S. universities to their first Canadian meeting at the Seignior Club, the delegates were told that an aroused and rearming United States would not only call into the armed forces many potential university students, and valuable faculty members, but probably also would require the universities to play a part in the technical and general training of soldiers, sailors and airmen.

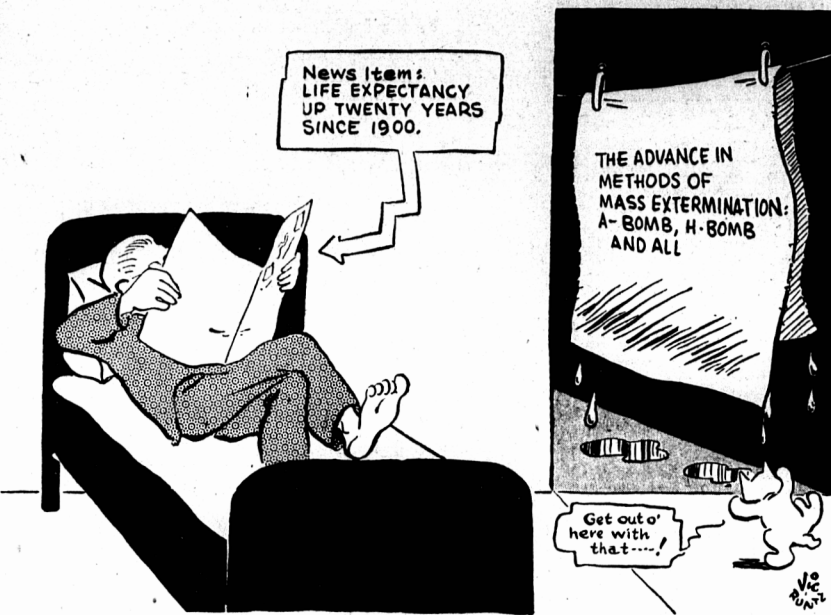
Egg prices on January 19 this year and previous years. The prices quoted below are for Grade A Large. At Montreal and Toronto the prices are those at which graded shipments are selling to wholesalers. At other points quotations are prices to shippers for ungraded eggs.

Table with columns for location (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Charlottetown) and years (1951, 1950, 1949) showing egg prices.

Weight of Live and Dressed Poultry at Registered Stations week ending

Table with columns for province (B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont., Que., N.B., N.S., P.E.I.) and years (1951, 1950, Dec. 23) showing poultry weights.

Warming News --- With A Wet Blanket In Reserve



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.

WOMEN'S R. C. N. SERVICE

Sir, — Early action on the formation of Women's Reserves from which an Active Service Women's Unit could be formed quickly in the event of an emergency was urged at a recent meeting of the Dominion executive of the Naval Officers' Associations of Canada.

The excellent work of the W. R. C. N. S. during World War II was recalled. Women served with efficiency as stenographers, office clerks, waitresses, store clerks, radar operators, communications workers, and in the many other departments which make up a large service organization.

Much of the work was new to them but the WRCS proved themselves adept at adapting themselves quickly to the specialized jobs.

It is felt that provision should be made to recruit WRCS, now, to fill the many clerical posts in the Reserve Divisions and Permanent Force shore establishments, thereby releasing men for training and duties afloat.

I am, Sir, etc., WILLARD MACKENZIE, Vice-President, Dominion Council, N.O.C. Halifax, N.S.

THE GORMAN BALLADS

Sir, — Let me thank you for publishing that interesting and informative article and letter by Miss Louise Manny of Newcastle, N.B. Why cannot some one on P. E. I. do something along that line, something to save for future generations the folk-lore of the Province before it is too late. Surely P. E. I. is not so poor in talent and lacking in interest that they must leave the task to Maine, N.S. and N.B.

However, to get back to Miss Manny's letter; it certainly gives us some interesting information on what is being done to keep green the memories of early days. But much as I appreciate her letter and article, I fail to see where it proves Gorman's claim to "Prince Edward Isle Adieu". Miss Manny says that the piece was sent to her as "The History of Prince Edward Island." I presume there is no secret about it; so will Miss Manny kindly tell us, who sent it to her, from where it came and what authority they gave her as to the authorship. That I think is quite important if it is to be accepted as evidence.

As to reading a dozen of Gorman's poems, well I haven't, but I've read carefully all were in Miss Manny's article; and see nothing in them to tag them as being from the same pen as "Prince Edward Isle Adieu". This latter poem I think has better rhyme and rhythm than the ones shown in the article, and the only one in which I see much resemblance to "Byron-town"; and in it the metre is handled much less deftly. I've heard poems of Doyle's that were so purely local that none but a native of St. Peter's could have written them; and they were in the exact style of "Prince Edward Isle Adieu." But why does Miss Manny overlook Mrs. McMahon's letter? That has been the only bit of really tangible evidence offered as yet.

Now a word about the article. I saw "Peter Emberly" given Gorman in a newspaper, heard it claimed by Nelson in New Hampshire, Mrs. Ekstrom in Maine and Helen Creighton in Nova Scotia gives it to Gorman; and Miss Manny says she has proof it was written by John Calhoun of Boletstown, N.B. Now where does that leave us? My bet is that Miss Manny is right.

Now take "Fourteenth of October" given in Miss Manny's article. I know positively that verse eight and first two lines of nine were being sung as part of "Emberly" in Maine in '98; if "Fourteenth of October" is Gorman's, and "Emberly" Calhoun's, who is stealing from who? Evidently someone is doing a bit of guessing; and it would be well to be a trifle more critical of their sources of information.

One must remember that many of the men who indulged in the rhyme...

ing habit put small value on what they wrote, and made no effort to preserve it. I had an uncle, Thomas Lewis, of St. Peter's Bay, who used to do a little in that line, mostly political stuff. I wrote him from Seattle in 1904 and asked him to send it all to me and I'd get it made into a small book just for himself and a few friends. He wrote back refusing, said he thought there was nothing more foolish for a man to do than write poetry, unless he was a top notch poet; said when he was dead and gone we could do as we liked about it.

Well he died a few years ago past 90; and now few of his pieces could be found. Most of it was in either The New Era published by P. R. Bowers, or in The Patriot, in the '80's and early '90's. He never signed his name, or very rarely; some of them hit pretty hard, and he took no such liberty with the rules of poesy as did Gorman. But that is what has happened to much of the P. E. I. poetry: lost, and unclaimed, available for adoption by any who cared to claim it.

I would not wish anyone to think I am trying to be supercritical of Gorman's poetry, for few know better than I the handman under which many of his pieces must have been composed. I knew the camps of Maine and New Hampshire in the late '90's, and New Brunswick was then admittedly worse. What N. B. would have been in the '70's we can leave to the imagination; but to have worked and lived in those camps at that time I'm sure would have quenched the fire of genius in a Byron or a Shelley. So let us look with an indulgent eye on the rough and tumble poems of those men; but as far as possible let each stand on his own feet.

Thanking Miss Manny for her article, and The Guardian for giving us the privilege of reading it, I am, Sir, etc., GEORGE L. MCINNIS, Vancouver, B.C.

IF I WERE A DELEGATE Sir, — Western capitalism is under attack from Communism. Capital is a good thing. A merchant can not serve the public without it. Our pioneer forefathers had some, consisting mainly in strong bodies, good courage and faith in God. Naturally some made faster strides than others. Quite often those ahead gave a helping hand to the weaker ones in such small things as filling the milk bottle in winter for the children where the cow was dry, also in supplying seed grain in spring giving time for payment.

But there were exceptions. Some of the well-to-do said, "I'll give you 50 bushels now for 100 in the fall." Others said, "I'll lend you money at 10 per cent, and take the interest in advance," which raised the rate above 11 per cent. This goes to show that we cannot be trusted with capital and continue to "do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God."

The same is true among the nations. We looked on China and "passed by on the other side." We sent 100 missionaries when we should have sent ten thousand. But for their bodily needs, we simply said, let them die. For need of help she suffered from flood, famine and a corrupt group that were the Chinese capitalists.

We read that this year the United States may vote 70 billion dollars for war purposes. The British Commonwealth may vote as much more. If they in 1946 had sprang to the help of China with a small part of that amount, the Chinese would have gotten a glimpse of what Christian brotherhood is. But

Democracy demands much of the individual citizen, more than any other form of government. People need to weigh and judge as well as be realistic in facing facts. We white people are full of race prejudice and pride and unless we comply with the laws of the Kingdom of God we may be removed from the position of world leaders.

With every apology for using space and with the thought that "fools rush in where angels fear to tread," I am, Sir, etc., J. A. MACKENZIE, Kensington, P. E. I.

TIMMINS, Jan. 26 — (CP) — Pyramid clubs are on the go here again — but the loot is different. A conscientious fan can come by 36 pairs of ladies nylon panties if she keeps adding to the letter pyramid. Several women have reported getting at least one pair to date while others report as many as seven.

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Notes By The Way

Doing commonplace things well may at times seem a rather humdrum business while we are engaged at them, but there is nothing in all the world that tells more significantly when the whole record of life's enterprises and achievements is counted up. And to fail in the everyday life is one of the very worst failures we can make. The man who finds fault with life because it does not give him a place in the front row has not yet come to understand where in life's finest opportunities lie. The man who is doing the ordinary things has quite as many of them as anyone else, if he would only see it.—Guelph Mercury.

Ontario County court judges began wearing new violet and black gowns at the beginning of the 1951 County Court Sessions. The Ontario judges are the first in Canada to change K. C. gowns for simplified versions of gowns worn by their English counterparts. "There are so many K.C.'s now we felt we should have something to distinguish us," explained Judge Thomas H. Barton. The new robes, designed by Morcourt's of Toronto, were adopted by the Ontario Judges' Association last fall. They differ from those of a K.C. in that they have a violet facing and collar. The judges now also wear a violet colored "gun" case which hangs crosswise from the left shoulder to the right side. A past

Old Charlottetown (And F. E. I.) GAS PLANT COMPLETED "Notwithstanding the number of impediments that had to be removed, and the obstacles that presented themselves from time to time, the Charlottetown Gas Light Company have, by energy and perseverance, brought their undertaking to the point of forwardness that there seems to be no doubt but that the inhabitants of Charlottetown will be able, in the course of a short time, to avail themselves of a purer and more economical light than they have hitherto had in their power to make use of.

"The Gas Works are situated at the eastern extremity of the town; they consist of a retort house, brick, roofed with iron; purifying house, tank and gas holder house, blacksmith's shop, and storehouse, coal-shed and office, so disposed as to form nearly three sides of a quadrangle, and are a great improvement to the appearance of that section of Charlottetown. The tank, which is 45 feet in diameter, and 14 feet deep, presented the greatest difficulties to the undertakers; these have now been happily overcome, and the tank is completed, as will soon be the gas holder. There have already been 3,000 yards of pipe laid down, and the Company will continue to lay down pipes where requisite as long as the weather remains open.

"From a communication made by Mr. McAusland to the Company at their last special general meeting, it appears that the cost of gas will be twenty shillings currency per 1,000 feet, and that a No. 1 gas-burner will consume 1,500 cubic feet of gas in a year, supplying light for four hours every night, at a cost of 30 shillings per annum, or one penny per night, for a light equal to three moulded sixes; that is, as much light for one penny as would cost sixpence at the lowest rate of mould candles per pound. This, however, is independent of the gas-fittings, lusters, etc.—the cost of which will depend upon the taste and the pleasure of the consumer. To furnish two rooms, a parlour and a kitchen—with a brass bracket each, of the best workmanship, and block-tin tubing, 2 will cost £2 currency; and if with three lights—say two in a shop, and one in sitting room or kitchen—£2 10s.

"We think there is little doubt but that in the lapse of a few months, we shall in Charlottetown not only have every house, shop and public building, but also out most populous streets lighted with gas, and thus become, by degrees, more assimilated to other towns and cities." —Hazard's Gazette, Nov. 23, 1863

DEATHLESS NAMES Rejoice, ye dead, where'er your spirits dwell, Rejoice that yet on earth your fame is bright, And that your names, remembered day and night, Live on the lips of those who love you well. 'Tis ye that conquer'd have the powers of Hell Each with the special grace of your delight; Ye are the world's creators and by might Alone of Heavenly love ye did excel. Now ye are stary names Behind the sun ye climb To light the glooms of Time With deathless flames. —Robert Bridges.

The Age-Old Story

This I say then. Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law.

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