

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1950

The Agricultural Institute of Canada

Charlottetown is proud host to the National Convention of the Agricultural Institute of Canada which commences today and continues through till Friday.

The official opening tomorrow afternoon features an address to be delivered at the Prince Edward Theatre by Mr. L. E. Kirk, Chief of the Plant Industry Branch, Food and Agriculture Organization of the U. N.

We are most fortunate that the many distinguished agriculturists should be meeting in this Province, but Islanders are of a sufficiently boosting disposition to feel that the convention and its members are also the gainers by the opportunity to become acquainted with the beauty and agricultural wealth of this tiny but closely settled Province.

Summer Lightning

The warm weather is the principal time for thunder storms here, and prudent householders provide a measure of protection to their property by means of lightning rods.

Although the causes are not yet well understood it has long been known that the atmosphere is in a state of electrification, as was shown by Benjamin Franklin and his kite.

An explanation of the protection provided by lightning rods is that the electric potential is carried along the conductor which terminates in a sharp point.

Calling All Sheep Breeders

Sheep breeding was once a major source of farm income in this Province. Current trends would indicate that it might profitably be revived, at least on a much larger scale than at present.

The decline in North America is in contrast with conditions in the other major sheep-producing areas of the world. After a war-time upset, the others have all either regained their pre-war production or are well on their way.

As at the first of last December, Canada's sheep population was 1,235,100 as against a 1936-40 average of 2,662,500.

The world sheep population figures have been assembled by the United States Department of Agriculture publication "Foreign Crops and Markets," issue of April 24, 1950.

Both countries have greatly gained in human population in the last 10 years. A vast extra market has been established for lamb, mutton and wool but the supply of raw materials to satisfy that market has been steadily diminishing.

In the 1936-40 period, the United States had one sheep for every 2.5 humans and Canada had one for every 4.1. But in 1949, the ratio stood at one to 4.6 in the United States and only one to 10 in Canada.

If encouragement were needed for higher production, surely this great additional market should afford it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There is the prospect of a Charlottetown-Halifax bus service soon, if satisfactory arrangements can be made with the Northumberland Ferries Ltd.

The next big shindy here will be in connection with the visit of the scientific farming outfit, who are the "Upper House" of the dirt farmers, of which Premier Jones professes to be the leader.

Today the double train service to and from Tormentine gets under way. The Island is that much easier to reach or to leave, but at this time of year, at least, the danger of an exodus is decidedly remote.

Fredericton is bulging at the seams as is Charlottetown. With the New Brunswick capital's particular confluence is due to the annual district assembly of Rotary.

Bank clearings are higher than for the first five months of last year, indicating that, whatever individuals may think of business conditions, the pace of economic activity continues to increase.

George Morland, English painter, born this date 1763. He produced upwards of 4,000 works, many of which have been engraved, including "Inside of a Stable", "Blind Man's Buff", "The Gypsies", etc.

"Thank you for nothing" is the response of Queen's County to the Federal Government in connection with the Supplementary Estimates brought down Friday.

A 4,000 year old clay tablet is one of the recent discoveries in Iraq which throws light on early civilization. The incompletely deciphered document carries the advice of a farmer to his son on what and when and how to plant, the oldest agricultural bulletin known to man.

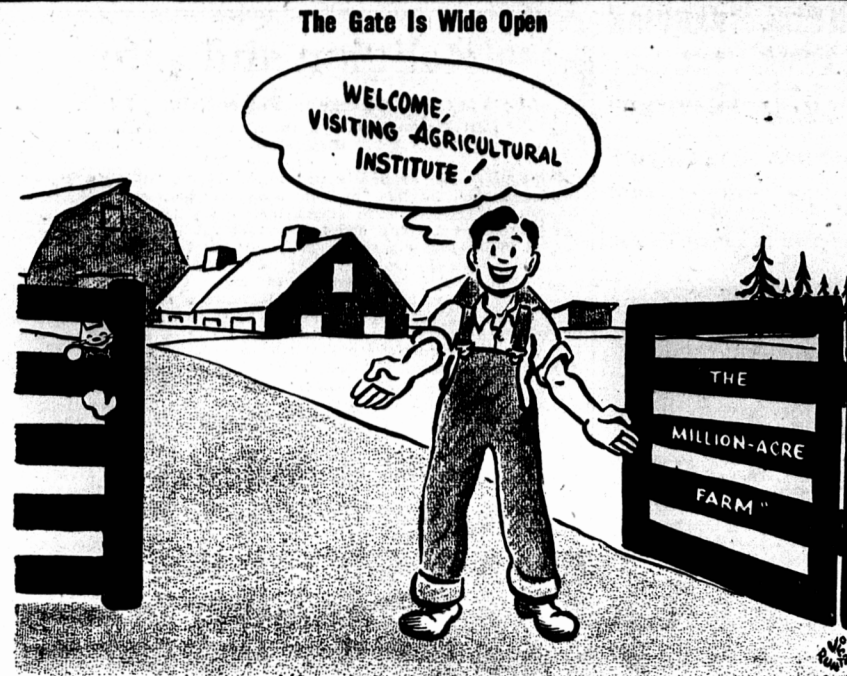
Newspaper men as a class are retiring, and non-self-advertising. This was particularly noticeable at the enjoyable C.P. get-together at Dalvay Friday, provided by Northumberland Ferries Ltd.

Minister of Agriculture Baker sounded a plaintive warning last week when he noted that the Government is expected to finance anything that is advanced as an improvement. Politicians, unfortunately, have not been slow to stimulate just that dependence on the state.

It is estimated that imports to Canada this year of tubes and steel strip will exceed \$7,000,000 in value, Mr. M. G. Stewart, chairman of a U. K. firm said recently. This firm has also fulfilled an order valued at \$750,000 comprising 78 miles of pipe required for a 10-in. diameter pipeline to be built from Gretna, Manitoba, to the new refinery under construction at Winnipeg.

Meat prices are the cause of concern to every consumer, says the Ottawa Journal, and there does not appear any relief in sight. Not only have the better cuts of beef advanced to a point where the best steaks are at or very near a dollar a pound but there is practically no such thing as a cheap cut today.

There are several reasons, all of them somewhat involved. Basic is the fact that, following the high-producing war years, many farmers let down on production due to uncertainty about future markets and the feeling, general at the time, that the wartime demand for food would not continue.



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.

IMPROVED EASTERN RURAL SERVICE

Sir.—In your press report of the King's County Federation of Agriculture meeting held last Friday, you state that "the meeting also asked that the Prince Edward Island Government explain why the proposal of the C.N.R. this spring regarding transportation was not put into operation."

As chairman of the committee which drafted these resolutions, I would like to clarify this point. It was not the intent or request to ask why the recent C.N.R. transportation proposal was not put into operation. Rather it was the feeling of the committee and is the general feeling in the outlying districts of King's County, that there should be some definite action taken to improve rural mail and passenger services if at all possible.

I am, Sir, etc.
ALEXANDER HAMILTON.
New Perth, P. E. I.

BELMONT AVE. NEGLECTED

Sir.—I note by your report, June 13, of the City Council meeting that motions were passed with regard to the laying of concrete sidewalks, and I would take from the report that most of those sidewalks, with the exception of one area being laid in the Brighton area.

Of course, we have no Councilors in the other sections to represent us, as should be the case. All our Councilors in Ward Five are Brighton residents, so therefore Brighton district gets all the breaks and preference.

The City Council knows these conditions. Is it not time that something was done to remedy them? Of course the City expects the residents of this street to pay their taxes, but the residents are asking what for, when they receive a little in return for what they pay.

I am, Sir, etc.
CHARLES E. WORTH,
Resident.

The Age-Old Story

With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful.

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Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)
SOUTHPORT IN 1855

"We have observed for some time a gradual increase in the number of buildings on the side of the Harbour opposite Charlottetown, and being desirous of ascertaining the extent of the improvements, we availed ourselves of the polite offer of John Roach Bourke, Esq., and were steamed across on Thursday last, very much to our satisfaction as far as the boat and all belonging to her were concerned. We enter our protest, however, against the landing places. On this side, particularly, instead of the present slip, the approach to which is at all times awkward, there should be a floating inclined plane, level with the deck of the boat at all times of tide, so that horses and vehicles could be driven on it every trip without the riders or drivers dismounting. The water in front of some other street should be used for this purpose; that of Cumberland Street is directly opposite to the new wharf building on the other side, and would enable the boat to make a greater number of trips in the course of the day.

"But of this hereafter. At present our business is with the rising village, and we confess we were not a little surprised at the style and magnitude of the buildings erected within the last year or two, as well as those in progress. Messrs. Beer have a store that would appear respectable in any street in Charlottetown. Mr. Mutch is finishing a building intended for a dwelling house and store, in a style which does him credit, and is fully equal to anything on this side of the water. Mr. George Moore has nearly completed one, intended for a retail shop and boarding house, and when we say that our friend William McKay is there, with plaster cornices and centre pieces, we give a sufficient idea of the style in which they do things there.

"There is an extensive blacksmith's shop, and Rendall has a tannery on a very respectable scale. The never failing 'Licensed to sell spirituous liquors' tavern is there also, but as a setoff to this, there is to be a Church erected in the course of the Autumn.

"Here, then, are all the requisites of a Town, and the chosen for it is an excellent one, having a gentle descent, and standing so high, that if it be not thoroughly drained, it will be the fault of the inhabitants. It is well worth the trip to have a view of Charlottetown and the surrounding scenery as well as that in the immediate vicinity.

"Rosebank has been celebrated for its natural beauty ever since we first saw it, now upwards of thirty years since, and that beauty has been much heightened since then by judicious management. We were delighted with Glen Stewart, and everything about it. We feel very certain, that a very short time will have to elapse, before there will be a considerable number of country villa residences, or rather small 'fermes ornees' in the neighborhood, every hundred or two yards.

"We have hitherto abstained from giving our embryo town a distinctive appellation, and this because it seems there is some difference about what is or is to be its name. The proprietor of the land, and of course the founder of the town or village, has given it the classic appellation of Stratford; those who intend to be in time, the 'oldest inhabitants', have designated it Southport. Now, of these two, we incline to the first. Had Charlottetown been called Northport, we should have willingly acquiesced in designating the other Southport, but as it is, we think it an unnecessary distinction, there being no port or haven near the locality.

Notes From Another Island
By "Anson"

LONDON, England.—The editor of one of influential daily newspapers, who is now in Canada for the Imperial Press Conference, has been improving the shining hour by acting as a sort of special correspondent for his paper. He has been keeping his eyes and ears open, and as a consequence has been able to have something to say to his readers back home about what Canadians are currently thinking about us.

"As individuals we are apt to be rather conservative in our outlook, with a great respect for convention, but as a nation it is perhaps one of our faults that we are inclined to be happily oblivious to other nations' opinions of us. Even if we are told, what we hear rarely seems to have much lasting effect; we might feel momentarily annoyed, surprised, pleased, flattered, insulted—according to the opinions expressed about us—but then we metaphorically shrug our shoulders and think of something else.

Whilst that attitude has not very much to commend it, I don't suppose it has been responsible for any major tragedies in the world's history; it didn't seem to matter very much when nations were content to keep themselves to themselves. Nowadays however, the world seems a much smaller place, thanks to speedier travel and a greater knowledge of people in other lands. It is more than ever necessary for one nation to get along amicably with others, and more than ever important for us all to heed what others think of us.

"If we do that, we can see whether others have got the right idea about us, and this is especially necessary as far as we in England are concerned, for we have never been very publicly minded as a nation, which makes it too easy for other peoples to get the wrong impression.

For example, the editor of whom I spoke earlier seems to have found that Canadians—not all, perhaps, but some, and even one is important—have the impression that we do not work hard enough, that we take too much time off for such events as the Grand National and the Boat Race. These two occasions were quoted as examples of the way in which millions of us idle away our time instead of helping to get ourselves back on our feet.

"When I read about this, it occurred to me that perhaps even I had helped to create this impression, for the question of sports of one kind or another crops up quite frequently in this column. Well, I think it has to, for it is our habit to attach a great deal of importance to our sporting occasions. But that does not mean that we do nothing but play games. We work hard enough, but that is routine. It is much more to be commented upon when a man doesn't work than when he does. And the chap who goes to his 'local' for a pint in the evening and talks about the work he has done that day is thought to be a bit of a bore. The Air Force had a name for it, I remember, and many an airman who talked shop off duty was told (more or less politely) to 'shut the hangar doors!'

"Make no mistake, a lot of work is done over here. Production figures increase, and increase again; the export drive only succeeds because hard work makes it succeed, and not the least of our good points is that we are prepared to see so much of our manufactured goods going overseas whilst we ourselves carry on with only small and very gradual relaxations of austerity. This column is no place to quote figures; in any case, I think it is possible to prove almost anything with figures, but out of a United Nations Economic Commission's report, issued very recently, one fact is worth mentioning. This is the fact that our industrial output has increased, and is in-

mention this, except to quiet the apprehensions of some of our more timid townfolk, who are rather jealous of seeing a rival rising opposite, and are fearful of the consequences."
—Hazard's Gazette, Aug. 8, 1955.

Notes By The Way

Precedents for government assistance to the universities are to be found in grants for research purposes, for medical education, and beyond all others, the enormously successful DVA scheme of educational grants. The value of such investment of federal funds in the development of skill and knowledge is incalculable. In fact, one of the chief beneficiaries of a strong university system is the federal government itself.

On May 25 all papers in Russia, by order of the Soviet government, carried this comment on the Winnipeg Flood: According to reports from United States correspondents, over 100,000 persons who have suffered from the floods in Canada are left without any kind of assistance from the authorities. The Canadian government, and also the government of the United States and Great Britain, have so far only contented themselves with expressions of sympathy for the victims of the flood.

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Few men carry themselves really well nowadays. There is no swing to their arms, which hang loosely by their sides, and there is a tendency to slouch or to shuffle along. There is often a lack of briskness in their walk. Young people are inclined to think that to carry a cane is evidence of old age, but even young people would benefit by the "poise" that it gives the carrier.

The 372 Doukhobors recently found guilty will serve about 900 man-years in jail. At the 1949 rate of \$1,374.37 to keep a man imprisoned for one year, that would entail a cost to the taxpayers of more than \$1,200,000. The problem, therefore, is only half met by periodically imprisoning wrongdoers among the fanatical sect. Some more permanent solution must be found. The light of education must be sent into the backward communities and the rising generation saved from the repetition of the elders' misguided performances. Only thus can this festering spot of medievalism in our progressive land be eradicated. The basic problem cannot be insurmountable.

The Poet's Corner

WHAT FAR KINGDOM
The soil is quick with dust of men
Who will not walk the earth again.
Each handful that is downward cast
Is particled of lives long past.
One cannot grasp the shifting sands
But centuries sift through the hands.
And children dip upon the shore
The dust of some progenitor.
The man who spades a virgin soil
Disturbs cohesions with his toil.
The plough's bright blade bites
Straight and sure
Commingles dust of rich and poor
In what far kingdom do they dwell
The dead who loved the earth so well
Whose dust is blown on every breeze
To dim the chlorophyll of trees?
To what far kingdom have they gone
The men whose dust we walk upon?
—Arthur S. Bourne.

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