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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1956

Pay Boost Revelations

The dispute over what was said and done at Liberal caucus meetings about increasing the sessional pay of private members makes interesting reading.

They claim that the caucus twice voted favorably on an increase of \$1,000 in sessional indemnity, and that the Premier, before leaving for Ottawa, had asked them to reconsider the matter, promising to abide by their decision and bring in the necessary legislation.

Here the Opposition members first entered the picture and became involved in the transaction. It seems, however, that they had previously been approached by Liberal members to support the \$1,000 indemnity boost, and had refused.

The story of the Liberal members is at variance with the Premier's contention that the Government was never a consenting party to any increase; but the cardinal fact with regard to the secrecy surrounding the whole proceedings is not disputed.

There are other reasons for public reaction. This Province at present is seriously handicapped financially, with little hope of obtaining a fair tax-rental deal from the Dominion Government.

Was this the time for the members to boost their own emoluments? They were getting \$1,500 for a few weeks' sessional work, and \$500 of this amount had been classed as travelling expenses.

Such revelations are a bad thing for any administration. The Premier's leadership has been challenged, and where the House now in session this might result in a vote of non-confidence and in the calling of another election.

ginning to talk like Conservatives in their concern about the topheavy majority in the House, and the need for a stronger Opposition.

A Fine Presentation

Prince County boards of trade, municipalities and all concerned in pressing for continuation of the railway service west of Charlottetown are to be congratulated upon their efforts in this connection.

The success achieved by Prince County shippers and business men in this presentation was aided by the Federal representative, Mr. MacNaught, and supported by the Provincial Government.

A Safety Plan

A report from Religious News Service says that a church leader in Switzerland, which like most other countries, is faced with an ever increasing traffic toll, has formed an organization to combat reckless driving.

Anything that has the slightest chance of contributing to safer driving is worth driving; and it may be that this Swiss organization is on the right track.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Russian teachers are reported to be telling their pupils that "mathematics are fun". They are, too, for anyone who likes that sort of pastime.

The plays of Shakespeare are now being staged in 270 theatres of the Soviet Union. Commenting on this, a leading Russian actor asserted "the U.S.S.R. has become Shakespeare's second motherland".

In a recent speech Mr. Adlai Stevenson had some sensible words to say about "average incomes" which the Republican administration claims are satisfactory.



SITTING IT OUT

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.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

Sir,—The recent release of information on the salary increase given to the members of the Legislature in the dying hours of the last session causes one to ponder over the ways of man and leads one to doubt that there is such a thing as fair play or justice in the world.

Let us grant the fact that the \$450 given to our members earned a F.K.E.D. "travelling expenses" to them at their just due. How does this compare with the \$100 given to the teachers? You will remember that at that time regret was expressed that the Government could not afford to pay the teachers more.

Some organizations, including the Teachers' Federation, are deeply concerned over the gravity of the teacher situation on the Island. We are perturbed over the few who are willing to go into teaching today. Need we look further for reasons than just this incident of salary?

Are our children in P.E.I. worthy of the best teachers and what are the citizens doing to encourage our good teachers to stay with us?

The whole question of educational finance should be examined. We can pay more for teachers' salaries; salaries that will attract and hold top quality teachers. Will any investment pay greater dividends?

Let us rearrange our sense of values and put first things first. Temporarily, at least, we do not seem to be doing this, for we spend money so freely for some things and cry bankruptcy when teachers' salaries come up for discussion.

Is not the teacher situation of the utmost concern to each one of us? Why then should we not endeavor to act so worthily as to convince our teachers in a more tangible way that we realize their inestimable worth?

I am, Sir, etc. ESTELLE BOWNESS, General Secretary, P. E. I. T. F.

RED CROSS DRIVE

Sir, Winter and spring weather has made it a very difficult task for the Red Cross collectors and we are concerned, and as a result complete coverage in many areas has been almost impossible.

In a recent speech Mr. Adlai Stevenson had some sensible words to say about "average incomes" which the Republican administration claims are satisfactory. Said Mr. Stevenson: "I don't agree that when one family's income is \$50,000 a year and another family's is \$2,000, they are both in the 'average' \$26,000 class."

High Speed Aircraft

By William Courtenay, O.B.E.

Britain's new delta winged supersonic bomber which Avros of Manchester and Canada are to build will be in the 1,500 mph to 1,750 mph class and indeed must attain such speeds for it will be 1965 before it is in service and by 1963 the 1750 mph Fighter will be seen in Commonwealth and NATO Air Forces.

This means that the British Fairey Delta winged Research aircraft which recently was flown at a new world speed record of 1,132 mph will not get record of 1,500 mph and will be regarded as purely a research type to acquire experience of conditions near the "heat barrier".

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Once a new type of Fighter has flown, some three years are required for development of the type; testing of its guns as a firing platform at high altitude—the vital test for an Interceptor Fighter—before a production model emerges with all snags and bugs eliminated.

The English Electric Fighter now flying at nearly 1,000 mph has completed much of its test work in the last three years; will be going into production and should reach the Royal Air Force by 1959.

This is not to mark the 1,132 mph plane as a failure but to illustrate the problems attendant upon replacing existing aircraft.

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The US "Starfighter" (Lockheed F-104A), recently demonstrated, is capable of speeds in excess of 1,200 mph and possibly up to 1,500 mph, no doubt with the use of rocket motor additional to jet power plant.

But it will be a short-lived American triumph because Saunders-Roe jet-cum-rocket Fighter will be seen flying this year at probably 1,750 m.p.h. if all goes well it should also put up a spectacular sensational performance at the next Society of British Aircraft Constructors show at Farnborough early in September.

Since British and American Fighters are not competing in combat but are complementary to each other, the most important factor to watch is the speed of the Delta types to secure the great speeds essential and Avros of Manchester and Canada possess the most experience at this work.

Among those who will have the distinction of graduating from the last instruction classes held at Aldershot Camp, Kentville, N.S. for the present are Captain J.M. Brady and Sergeant-Major H. A. DeCosta, both of Charlottetown.

As yet there is no herring being caught at Georgetown and the fact is causing no little concern to fishermen, who always hope for local catches to save them the expense and trouble of bringing bait from other points in the Island.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

DON'T BE TAKEN IN BY "CANCER CURES"

Let's get a few things straight about the dangers of cancer.

Only a doctor can determine whether or not you have this dread disease. And if you have, only a doctor can treat you.

Don't be misled by advertisements of "cancer cures". So-called doctors who advertise they can cure cancer with medicines, salves, injections or with secret machines, should be avoided.

There's a great danger in wasting time on some of these "cures." Maybe these treatments actually will do you no harm in themselves—but they will delay you from seeking competent medical help.

Remember, testimonials displayed by some of these persons can be purchased. Or innocent victims can be hoodwinked into signing them.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A news story that a pair of robbers broke into a drug store the other day makes us wonder whether they got anything for their pains.—Hamilton Spectator

Cricketers have been warned in England that they must watch what they say on the playing field when the game is being televised. New BBC 40-inch close-up lens makes it possible for viewers to read lips. My word! That means they cannot say "Bother!"—Fort William Times

Spring is the time for petunias and pansies in our gardens. It is also the season of potholes and patches on our streets. This pothole plague is not a peculiar Hamilton phenomenon, of course. This very day, there may be thousands of auto springs being broken all over Canada; countless pedestrians twisting their ankles and lurching across streets. Perhaps it just seems worse here.—Hamilton Spectator

Five years ago it was brought to the attention of Parliament that the statue of Sir John A. MacDonald needed repairs, and last December the job (meaning his spectacles) was done. It's the rush and bustle of public life that kills our statesmen.—Peterborough Examiner

A Canadian company plans to ship Ontario-made champagne to England in substantial quantities this year. The domestic wine industry must indeed be making strides if it feels able to offer products for sale almost in the shadows of the vineyards of Europe.—Ottawa Citizen

Lt. General Guy Simonds has joined the list of retired generals who make speeches saying that Canada is unprepared either for war, for preventing war, or for knowing what to do if the country is attacked. He'll be criticized by Ottawa, but a lot of people will believe retired generals ahead of active politicians.—St. Catharines Standard

To save scarce agricultural land in Denmark people are building upward, rather than outward. This scheme is being urged in Britain where some 50,000 acres a year are lost to farming because of the spread of houses into farm areas. People in Canada who love the ranch-type house wouldn't be enthusiastic about the Denmark policy.—Niagara Falls Review

do you review your will as often as you change your car? Occasional revision of your will is necessary to adjust it to changing conditions.

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G. F. BENTLEY, MANAGER

Advertisement for B.O.A.C. Ticket Instalment Plan. Includes text: 'The Age Old Story', 'OUR YESTERDAYS', 'TEN YEARS AGO', 'Borrow from HFC when needed', and a table of interest rates for various cities.