

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink." CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, OCT. 6, 1950

Still Smoking

When firemen have stayed the progress of a blaze and prevented it from destroying the community there is no question of disbanding the fire brigade. The outbreak of Communist aggression in Korea has been quelled by the energy and sacrifice of United Nations forces, principally American, but there is no reason to believe that the threat is extinguished or that other outbreaks will not occur almost anywhere in the world.

There is bound to be a feeling of let-down both amongst men who have joined the services at the height of the emergency and among others who were on the point of following their example. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that our armed forces are vital to the safety of democracy and will continue to be as long as the men in the Kremlin hold to the policy of extending their rule by threats of force.

It does not detract from the glory of MacArthur's forces to observe that it was not they who prevented the Chinese and Russian red armies from entering the fray. It was the power of a world in arms that made any such enterprise far too dangerous to risk.

This country must and is steadily strengthening its armed forces and by so doing helps to make aggression far more costly than tempting.

Traffic Lights

The recent demonstration of traffic lights at City Hall before members of the City Council, the Board of Trade and other citizens has again stirred up interest and controversy as to the merit or demerit of installing such a system of traffic control in the city. It appears that the majority of the Board of Trade and others who have discussed the matter favour the installation of traffic lights at certain intersections. The main controversy which is likely to arise when further steps are taken in the matter will be the type of system to be installed. When Mayor MacDonald went into the matter some time ago and reported that the cost of placing traffic lights on six or seven intersections would be in the vicinity of twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars, there was considerable doubt expressed about the advisability of incurring such an expenditure in view of the fact a number of those interested felt they could be placed at a very greatly reduced figure. From the demonstrations this week it can easily be seen that both the Mayor and his critics were more or less correct in their stand, as they apparently were considering two entirely different traffic light control systems. The type of signal the Mayor was referring to was a Traffic Actuated Traffic Signal System, while the others were thinking in terms of a strictly Time Interval Traffic Signal System. It seems apparent from quotations held by Councillor Cox that the former system is much more expensive than the latter, but in the long run might be more effective.

Judges As Mediators

Mr. John T. Hackett, K. C., prominent member of the legal profession and former parliamentarian, expressed a thought regarding judges who act as conciliators in labor disputes which has troubled quite a few serious students of public affairs in recent years. "Judges", said Mr. Hackett, "lower the dignity of their office by acting as conciliators. There has been some loss of caste from such service." His observations were supported by other prominent lawyers and jurists attending the joint sessions of the Canadian and American Bar Associations in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hackett's remarks point to the anachronisms of public policy in respect of labor disputes. Such disputes have not yet been publicly recognized as proper grist for the mill of the courts of law, mainly because there is not sanction whereby the recommendations of a conciliator may be enforced. Labor conciliation boards, not being courts of law, do not enjoy freedom from comment on the part of the press and public while deliberations are in progress, as is the case with legal disputes. Judges who serve as conciliators, therefore, frequently find themselves in the midst of public controversies which bear little or no relationship to the proceedings of a court of law.

Such considerations suggest that now

may be the time to revamp attitudes towards labor disputes, and to ask whether what is needed is not a new body of jurisprudence to govern the settlement of disputes in this field, just as disputes in other fields where public interest is at stake are dealt with.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Calais surrendered to the Canadians, this date 1944.

Beauty is on every hand at this season but few see the tourists to share it.

Field Marshal Earl Roberts, V.C., British Hero, born this date 1852, died Nov. 14, 1914, while still in arms in World War I.

It is unlikely the Federal by-election in Queen's will take place before January. Meantime party organizations are busy making arrangements for nomination meetings, etc.

The Communist demonstration in Vienna turned out to be a fizzle but not because of any lack of determination on the part of the organizers. The question remains, where will they try next time?

The biggest international conference on tuberculosis ever held took place in Rome recently; 500 medical experts from 43 nations took part in discussions of joint measures for a world-wide campaign.

Here are the nations now behind the "Iron Curtain": East Germany, the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania. They should be kept in mind when reading U. N. news.

The expulsion from the Liberal party of a member of the Newfoundland legislature for "an inexcusable violation of party discipline" carries the moral that it is not meet or wise to remind politicians of campaign promises.

Mr. Harold Wilson of Britain's Board of Trade has declared that "despite all shifts and changes in world trade, the Commonwealth is the largest trading area in the world today—accounting for a third of the world's trade."

Plowing matches, if they do nothing more, bring in friendly concourse neighbours, acquaintances, and strangers to compare notes and renew friendships. With the addition of show exhibits, the plowing matches are all the more attractive and should be encouraged.

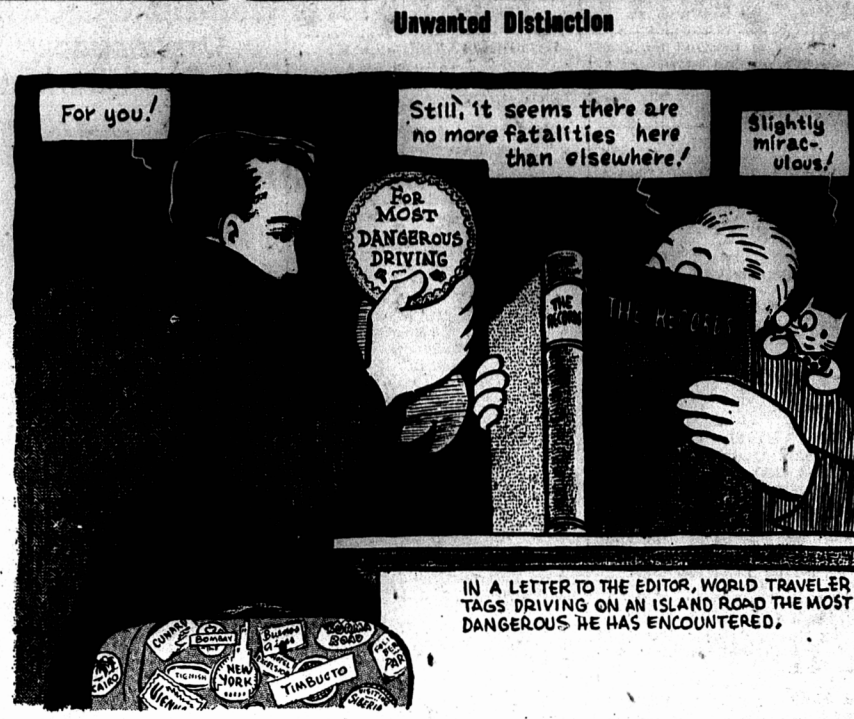
The Boy Scout movement loses an ardent supporter in the transfer of Rev. S. J. Davies to Sydney as secretary of the Maritime branch of the Bible Society, and good wishes go with him and his wife for success in his new appointment.

Greater Montreal has grown from 1,020,018 to 1,540,000 in population since 1931. What could more strikingly show the need of active measures for the dispersal of industry and population if the industrial life of this country is not to be in jeopardy from a single concentrated attack.

Enclosed areas, under the Game Act of 1937, are increasing by leaps and bounds. Sportsmen themselves set the pace by leasing properties and the farmer is now retaliating in kind. Unless the trend is arrested we will reach a point where everyone may shoot only on his own property, which would not be very agreeable even to proprietors of the most desirable locations.

New York has been told that its parking regulations and habits are helterskelter, its traffic conditions in general are hopelessly bramble-tangle, that most of its traffic confusion results from prolonged parking on either side of the street and from the New Yorker's fantastically nonchalant double parking. The big town must like visitors to feel at home.

From a few ships at the war's outbreak by February of 1942, the ships of the Royal Canadian Navy formed the main strength of the Western Atlantic escort forces. By midsummer of that year, 40 per cent of escort duty with trade convoy in the North Atlantic was carried out by them. By March of 1943, the actual division of escort duty in the North Atlantic was 50 per cent Royal Navy, 48 per cent Royal Canadian Navy and two per cent United States Navy. "Navy Week", says Lt.-Cdr. Wm. Sclater, author of "Haida", "is to remind us of how a young nation, drawn from every section of this far-flung land, ventured forth on the face of the great waters and wrote, for all the world to see, one of the most glorious chapters in our history."



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) ADVERTISEMENTS

—From Haszard's Gazette, Jan. 2, 1856: Albert H. Yates advertises for auction on Thursday, the 10th instant, "that valuable Wharf property, known as Tremains, having a water frontage of 120 feet, and fronting on Lower Water Street 40 feet, with the new buildings thereon, contiguous to the Ferry landing and principal streets"; also, on the same day, "that desirable two-story dwelling house and land, one-fourth of a Lot, at present occupied by the subscriber, situate in Water Street, immediately opposite the Terrace House; also, immediately after, the unexpired leasehold interest in half of Town Lot No. 7, in the first hundred, fronting on King Street 160 feet, immediately opposite to Mr. Charles McKenna's, with the large new warehouse and other buildings thereon.

Messrs. Yates and Francis Longworth announce that the co-partnership existing between them under the firm name of Longworth and Yates has been dissolved by mutual consent. "The hull of the brig 'Sardinian', where she now lies stranded off Prim Island, about 1 1/2 miles to the north-eastward of Point Prim lighthouse," is advertised for auction by Benj. Davies. John Scott, secretary, on behalf of the trustees of the Free Church, announces "that having inspected the building, the committee feel much pleasure in stating that they are satisfied with the progress which their contractor is making in the work, and as they are anxious to have the building completed as soon as possible, they hereby respectfully request the congregation and other friends who have not yet paid their subscriptions to forward them with as little delay as possible."

Michael Reilly, cabinet-maker, announces that he has commenced business "in the building lately occupied as a sail-loft by Mr. Thos. Williams, one door below the residence of W. E. Clark, Esq." George Moore, proprietor of the Stratford Hotel, advertises the opening of his establishment, which he describes as being "delightfully situated on the south side of the Hillsborough, commanding an extensive view of the City and Harbour, and with superior accommodation for private families and transient boarders." Persons wanting the services of children as apprentices or otherwise, from 10 years old and upwards are assured "that they can be assisted in procuring such, if early application is made at the office of Mr. T. Stewart, in DesBrisay's Buildings."

Williams, Heard and Henry Palmer, on behalf of the Charlottetown Mutual Insurance Company, announce that the company's present reliable capital exceeds £1700 and that they have purchased, for the benefits of insurers, "one of Phillips Fire Annihilators, the use of which, in case of fire, can be obtained immediately by applying at the secretary's office."

The Age-Old Story

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

In Defence Of Youth

In his opening address to staff and students of Toronto University, President Sidney Smith left no room for doubt about where he stood on the matter of the standing of present day youth. "I must confess," he said, "that I am somewhat weary of the repeated utterances of Jeremiahs and Cassandras of an older generation who bemoan the weakening of the fibre of Canadian Youth. Ignorant, irresponsible and paganic are some of the adjectives that are applied to you. You no doubt have already learned that in every succeeding older generation many persons have wailed that youth is not as good as they were when they were young. To the harsh critics of modern youth I sometimes retort that throughout history youth were never in the eyes of many of their elders from promising. Baldness, bulge, bifocals and bridges have a tendency to produce forgetfulness of the critics' own juvenile shortcomings.

"I recall clearly that in the dismal thirties many persons described the youth of those years as empty-headed and light hearted. What a lie that was! In World War II, Canadian youth demonstrated that they had robust intellects, stout characters, rare capacity for leadership and singular devotion and courage. Only last week, I read in a current issue of a Canadian periodical a series of indictments of the quality of Canadian "Frosh." With those denunciations of our current crop from Secondary Schools, I substantially disagree. "It is my considered testimony that you are better prepared than we of an older generation were. You are, at least, as responsive to rich ideas and high ideals as my high school class in 1917 was. Those who criticize schools and colleges are frequently parents who might well re-examine the measure of their discharge in their homes of their educational responsibilities."

"The Go Of Things"

(The Times, London) A President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science must feel that famous ghosts crowd behind his chair. The names of the holders of this office since 1831, when the first meeting was held, are the roll-call of nearly all the greatest men in British Science. It-health kept Darwin out, but there are few other notable absences. Many famous controversies, too, must have echoed in Birmingham recently when members of the Association assembled to hear Sir Harold Hartley deliver his presidential address.

The foundations of belief and knowledge have been explored over the years on these annual occasions. The lay public was soon made aware of the importance of this representative body to a just appreciation of man's place in the universe. There was, it is true, a brief period of scepticism and even of some mockery. The British people does not take experts lightly to its bosom and before the Association came to be listened to, year by year, with respectful attention it had to prove that it had something interesting to say.

Its growth is typically British and reflects at each period the prevailing temper of society no less than the progress of science. One of its most active founders appealed to the aristocracy to resume their proud station as patrons and expressed a hope that prelates of the national Church would not refuse to promote "that knowledge which is the foundation of pure religion and those noble enquiries which elevate and prepare it, for its immortal destination."

The first President was a peer and the two next, both professors of scientific subjects at Oxford or Cambridge, were clergymen. Some of these pioneers ran the gauntlet of the jesters. Dickens, far below his best form, amused himself at the expense of the "Mudfog Association" with its pedantic figures of fun — Wheezy and Muddlebrane, Rummum and Pumpkinskull — researching into Umbulogy and kindred sciences. The Times of more than a century ago joined in this game. "We have a general antipathy," it remarked in a leading article, "to twaddle and we oppose the British Association because the advancement of science seems to be impeded rather than aided by the erratic proceedings of that body of babblers."

As the Victorian age wore on.

The Poet's Corner

PROUD MAISIE Proud Maisie is in the wood, Walking so early; Sweet Robin sits on the bush, Singing so rarely. "Tell me, thou bonny bird, When shall I marry me?" "When six braw gentlemen Kirkward shall carry ye."

"Who makes the bridal bed, Birdie, say truly?" "The grey-headed sexton That heaves the grave duly." "The glow-worm o'er grave and stone Shall light thee steady, The owl from the steeple sing "Welcome, proud lady!" —Sir Walter Scott.

Six hundred years, blot out cosmogony, Geology, ethnology, what not (Greek endings, with the little passing-bell That signifies some faith's about to die). And set you square with Genesis again. Disraeli, more realistic and therefore less disturbed, put a different interpretation on what had happened when, reviewing the previous 50 years, he said (in the seventies) they were more remarkable than anything in the annals of mankind, and he said: "I am not thinking of the rise and fall of Empires, but of the passing of those revolutions of Science which have had much more effect than any political causes, which have changed the position and prospects of mankind more than all the conquests and all the codes and all the legislators that ever lived."

Events in the three generations that have followed since that judgment was passed have multiplied its truth by geometrical progression. Readers of Sir Harold Hartley's address are no longer afraid the science will explode their faith in the next world; it is their fate in this world that may be darkened by the relentless discoveries of the laboratory. Science, Hobbes declared, is the knowledge of consequences; who, the layman asks, has knowledge of the consequences of science? Sir Harold Hartley makes no claim to be able to answer that question. Instead, looking back, as a humanist as well as a scientist, over the great victories that have been won in the battle against ignorance of the sources and control of energy, he points out that this long campaign is far from being fought to a finish.

It is tantalizing he reflects, to think of the immense amount of energy reaching the earth by solar radiation and the little use made of it. If, again, the world's reserves of water power were all to be developed, their output would equal the total inanimate energy that man is now using. The tides could be harnessed and the deserts made to blossom into a paradise. To those who fear worse things than the present, it is only a matter of time that it is harder to be creative than to destroy. Scientists themselves cannot ever be sure of whether their quest will lead them. No less a genius than Kelvin—a former President — dismissed an early flying machine as "a kind of child's perambulator with a sunshade magnified eight times."

Sir Harold Hartley would have been unfaithful to the spirit of objective inquiry had he pretended to be sure that the myth of Paradise will ever cease to be true. That depends on action beyond the control of the scientists. They, in Clerk-Maxwell's phrase, can discover "the go of things"; where things go when they have been discovered is the responsibility of mankind as a whole.

INDIA'S D. P. S. India has 3,000,000 displaced persons from Pakistan.

Notes By The Way

Music is like spaghetti. If you like spaghetti you do not eat it morning, noon and night. You only have it once in a while. It should be kept distant so that you have a real hunger for it.— Dimitri Mitropoulos, conductor New York Philharmonic.

Want to win \$200? The Egyptian Government, we understand, will gladly pay that if you capture a Waab and bring it back alive. Before you start your safari, though, just one word of caution: The Waab doesn't exist. The government is simply trying to shake the superstitious faith of the Sudanese in the manlike "creature", which has no joints and therefore must sleep against a tree.—This Week.

British Columbia motorists are going to be saved a lot of unnecessary bother at the end of the year. Their present car license plates, with the addition of a small tab will be used again in 1951. After that, a semi-permanent five-year plate will be issued. This is a sensible move. Not only does the long-lived plate eliminate a messy annual chore for the motorist, but it saves metal. Other provinces might well follow to B. C. example. — From Financial Post.

British Tommies and American G. I.'s are elbow-to-elbow in Korea and yet in the stress of battle they cannot exchange rifle ammunition. They can't change spare parts of vital arms. That's because we of the democracies do not seem to be able to standardize even our primary weapons. Americans and Canadians would be in the same frustrating position if they were fighting together in the defence of this continent. We do not pretend to know who is to blame for the impasse which seems to occur every time anybody makes a new move toward standardization. Maybe a great deal has been accomplished. If so they have kept it secret. — Vancouver Province.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson made a point in his radio interview broadcast that needs reiteration. It is that the Asians themselves are going to determine their future, and the United States is not so all-powerful as to be able to dictate that determination. That does not mean that we must write off China as irretrievably lost to Soviet domination, or that we have to accept as inevitable the ascendancy of Communism in Indonesia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, or the Malay Peninsula. On the contrary, it

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