

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, AUG. 17, 1951

Ontario's Example

Despite the fact that Ontario is the most highly industrialized Province in the Dominion, agriculture still remains its most important single industry. The Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, stresses this fact in a foreword to an interesting booklet issued by his department. It is entitled "Farm Life in Ontario", and the subject is presented most attractively.

The achievement by Ontario farmers, says Mr. Kennedy, has resulted from their use of the latest scientific developments and improved farming practices. These have enabled them, even with a reduced working force, to produce more grain per acre, graze more cattle per acre and put up more hay with a higher feeding value than ever before. This increase and improvement in quality of feed production has made possible the feeding of a greater number of livestock and poultry.

Of great importance to Ontario's agricultural economy is the Province's large processing and canning industries, which annually take care of one-third to one-half the total fruit production. Another factor, however, enters into the picture. That is the extensive truck transportation facilities. "Fresh fruits and vegetables are shipped to metropolitan markets principally by trucks belonging to wholesalers, farm co-operative sales agencies, and independent truckers on a commission basis. When fruit and vegetable growers are near to either the metropolitan or town markets, they normally transport their produce in their own trucks." Only in peak seasons of production do railway car loads of produce leave the specialized areas for more distant metropolitan markets.

This is how Ontario keeps down its railway rates on a competitive basis, and why, along with Quebec, it has been inactive in protesting the recent freight rate increases. As pointed out by Prof. Harold Innis in a memorandum printed as a postscript to the Turgeon Royal Commission report, "The eloquent silence of Ontario and Quebec in rate cases and in the hearings of this Commission points to the effectiveness of truck and water competition in keeping down rates in the St. Lawrence region."

In 1947, out of 3,997 4 1/2 ton trucks in Canada, Ontario had 2,146; of 2,896 trucks, 8 1/2 tons or larger, Ontario had 2,126. Truck competition, according to the evidence taken by the Turgeon Commission, is saving the public large sums of money each year, and practically all these savings are made in the two Central Provinces. The Commission also points out that railway losses in Ontario and Quebec due to highway or truck competition are recouped by increasing freight rates elsewhere. This imposes a serious handicap on our Maritime farmers, and it is a problem which is likely to continue with more and more serious implications until we develop our transportation facilities along the same lines.

"Harriman Oils The Works"

Renewal of negotiations between the British and Iranian Governments regarding the "nationalization" of the Anglo-Iranian oil refinery at Adaban has been interpreted as a glowing tribute to the success of President Truman's special emissary Averill Harriman as a negotiator. So it is. But it would be unfortunate if the improvement in Anglo-Iranian relations were attributed solely to Mr. Harriman's efforts. Perhaps the unexpected appearance of a Soviet warship off the coast of Iran had as much to do with the sudden outburst of "reasonableness" on Premier Mossadag's part as anything Mr. Harriman may have said or done.

What is most significant at the moment in the Anglo-Iranian affair is that negotiations are now being conducted directly between the British Government and the Iranian Government, rather than between representatives of the oil company and Iranian authorities. The vast reservoir of experience of the British foreign office in Middle East diplomacy is thus, at long last, being brought to bear on the trouble.

It would be folly to assume that the Anglo-Iranian incident is ended. The very weakness of Premier Mossadag's regime and the noisy clamor of the Iranian Communist sympathisers should be sufficient

warning that trouble may break out anew. Resumption of negotiations at highest diplomatic and governmental level, however, is a token of recognition on the part of both parties to the dispute that failure to achieve a peaceful solution would be highly dangerous.

Farm Labour Force

There can be few Canadians who are not convinced that this country offers almost unlimited possibilities for sustaining increased population. It is especially noteworthy that despite natural increase and immigration there are today some 105,000 fewer people working in agriculture than there were in 1947.

Merely to offset the drain from country to city it is necessary to increase the population at a greater rate than we have been doing. To bring about a significant increase in people actually working on the land will require all the men, women and children we can possibly attract and hold.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Fifth Day of Old Home Week and the Fourth of the Exhibition.

Every day has seen large attendance at the Exhibition, but yesterday's seemed to be greatest of all.

Old Home Week will soon be a memory, but also cause for anticipation, both pleasurable.

Once more the "North Novies" follow the 69's to attend the fifth annual reunion of the regiment being held tomorrow near Amherst.

The "cease-fire negotiations" have dragged out almost interminably but who would shorten them an hour at the expense of giving encouragement to the spirit of aggression?

Some general British medical practitioners in the United Kingdom complain that under the Nationalization scheme they have to take so many patients on their lists to make a decent living that they are unable to give sufficient attention to any of them.

Some herring catch. "Foreign Trade", August 4, carries a July 23rd report from Oslo—"The net result of the Norwegian winter herring fisheries this year amounted to 9,548,000 hectolitres, which is the highest figure ever reached. The previous record, made in 1948, was 8,809,000 hectolitres. (1 hectolitre equals approximately 3.3 bushels)."

Grenada, which by the way has its own Charlotte Town and Hillsborough, has made invalid for postal purposes a number of stamp issues, one as recent as 1946. It seems probable that the issues must have been chiefly intended for sale to collectors anyway, rather than for the proper purpose of carrying mail.

Honore de Balzac, celebrated French novelist, died at Paris, on return from his wedding trip, this date 1850. Often gross and brutal, Balzac is yet one of the great writers of the world, being the father of the realistic school of fiction, as well as the forerunner of the novelist of character analysis and portrayal.

The Gulf Stream is to blame for the erratic weather we are having, a Norwegian oceanographic professor on a visit to a Massachusetts institute of that description having discovered the Gulf Stream has been acting queerly and has had a surface temperature lower than it should be at this time of the year. It is true the stream breaks off before it reaches these northern waters, but the effects may be felt.

The tie that binds. Twenty-three Canadian High School Teachers who recently toured England, Scotland and Wales, have returned home. Travelling under the auspices of Lady Jean Campbell, the teachers met educationalists, saw places of historic interest and spoke with prominent people. Sair Mr. Forbes Elliott, high school principal, "We are going back to Canada to work for the closest ties between our new world and your old and experienced one."

In St. Gregoire De Montmorency Postmaster-General Rinfret said the postal service has become Canada's largest public utilities enterprise with gross receipts of \$105,533,994 last year. Mr. Rinfret spoke at inauguration of a \$100,000 post office building serving Montmorency County, adjoining Quebec. He said the extent of the post office's growth is shown in its receipts of \$914,000 in 1937 compared with today's. Costs were rising too, he said, and a deficit last year of \$1,326,788 was the first in 11 years.

Opportunities For Adventure Around Home



POSSIBLE UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS

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.

ENJOYED VISIT

Sir—Will you kindly tell the people of your small but beautiful Province how happy my wife and I feel after spending our holidays on your Island. We have admired the rolling hills with their fields of varied tints of green, sloping towards peaceful valleys where beautiful country homes or small villages emerge in the midst of tall and shapely trees; we have admired the "windbreaks" around the farms, looking like gigantic green frames, setting off the individual plots of land; we have walked for miles or sunned ourselves on your beautiful sandy beaches; we have enjoyed swimming in clear, salty and invigorating waters; we have watched golf balls flying over one of the best golf courses in Canada. But above all, we have appreciated the kindness and courtesy of your people who, living in a small Province where it is easier to make new acquaintances, always extend a warm welcome to the tourists.

On leaving, may we be allowed to mention a matter which is of vital importance to your Island—the discrepancy between the price for codfish obtained by the fishermen and that paid by the consumers in our large cities forces us to conclude that the fishermen are being grossly underpaid for their arduous work. I hope money for the fishermen would mean more money spent on the Island, hence greater prosperity for all. What is to be done? Well organized co-operatives, such as those serving the Gaspé fishermen, might be the solution. I feel sorry for these fishermen. I am, Sir, etc., A. J. BENEYEAU, Master, University of Ottawa Normal School.

PEKINESE HOLIDAY

Sir—It's quite a way, both culturally and geographically, as the Massey Report admonishes us to remember, from Manhattan to Montreal. It's even farther from a posh Park Avenue apartment to the Nova Scotian hamlet of Ecum Secum. Meteorologically speaking, however, in the month of July, Ecum Secum, as even hardened Manhattanites will admit, has the edge on Park Avenue.

Among this summer's sojourners at Ecum Secum is a little pekinese by the name of Leander. Life in Ecum Secum has been full of surprises for Leander who, until he left Manhattan, thought that a dog's world consisted solely of leashes, curb-your-dog signs and the smell of gasoline. Leander, being of oriental descent, was philo-sophic about such matters. Controls, for him, were foreordained and therefore accepted.

Ecum Secum, however, doesn't have controls. Not even for dogs. The first week Leander was utterly exhausted by the limitless profusion of fence poles, posts and spruce trees. The unaccustomed freedom plagued his curiosity. His first adventure was with the barnyard cat. The consequences were painful for Leander. His second encounter with native four-footed fauna involved an animal which resembled a cat, striped, but not of the barnyard variety. The consequences this time were painful both for Leander and for his owners.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

REGATTA DAY

"We will undertake to say that Charlottetown never on any occasion had so many people together as were congregated on the streets, wharfs and other places yesterday. The day was fine with the exception of a shower or two, which set the ladies scampering in search of shelter and produced a race not mentioned in the Regatta programme, for the crafts were all well rigged, and not a few of superior build; and flag pendants and streamers when the squadron was in full sail presented a remarkably gay appearance. The wharfs were crowded, and every place available for a sight was eagerly seized upon. Of the different races and the manner in which they came off, as the phrase is, we do not profess to be sufficiently skillful to pronounce with certainty. We were greatly pleased with the race between the four-oared gigs, and still more with a race between the Indian canoes.

WOMEN & THE SMOKING HABIT

Sir—It beats me why women ever took to smoking, they are so dainty and sweet smelling. Some 60 years ago or less, it was a very odd sight to see a woman burning tobacco. I remember going into a neighbour's home and seeing the aged grandmother, with a foot on each hearth of the old Waterloo, blowing rings from a clay pipe, dark from age, and whose stem was about three inches long. But wasn't she enjoying herself! I rushed home and told my mother what I had seen. Mrs. C. doing. She remarked, "Mrs. C. learned that habit in the Old Country." Another interesting case was that of a squaw, sitting on the edge of a railway platform, dangling her feet and puffing a woodchuck. The colour of the pipe and its odour seemed to blend nicely. But for our dainty, red-lipped Canadian girls to worship the Indian root I don't get the idea.

The tobacco men are partly responsible for this new craze. New and very attractive. Look at a fine, sleek-haired boy friend, holding a Ronson up to a cigarette sticking from painted lips and if he smokes why should not she? You will notice that every brand of cigarette is advertised by a beauty more easily felt for. Look at the attractive ads. The tobacco men know what they are after though some girls, today, do not seem to know. If the habit added to your beauty or did them any good it would vote for it, both hands up. Smoking does more injury to women than to men for they are more sensitive and higher strung. Excessive use is doing more injury, physically, I mean, to boys and girls than drinking. It is more universal and it is an established fact that people who smoke, more easily get fat.

The Age-Old Story

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? what ye know not that I must be about my Father's business? And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

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Notes By The Way

A smart woman can combine austerity with gracious living. It's just a matter of serving the meat substitute by candlelight. — Winnipeg Tribune.

Coffee, says scientists, was originated in Africa. Then it must have been the long trip that made it so weak in our restaurants. — Windsor Daily Star.

It is quite apropos these days for the wage earner to greet his wife after a shopping tour with the query: "How much did you add this time to Mr. Abbott's surplus?" Last reports has the surplus at four million a day, including Sundays, when all the stores are closed. — St. Catharines Standard.

There are many ways of parking. And quite a few of them demonstrate a complete disregard for the other fellow. You park on a street a reasonable distance from the next car, just enough room to comfortably turn out later on. Someone comes along behind and parks bumper to bumper. The car ahead is moved out and someone else backs into the space, also bumper to bumper. And there you are, trapped. — Owen Sound Sun-Times.

The sparrows marked a man's fall. It happened in Augsburg, Germany, where an old man, who lived alone, fell seriously ill and had only strength enough to crawl to his bed and lie there without attention. Such was his plight for two or three days August Duerschmidt, who is 84, had fed the sparrows in his yard for six years. He didn't go out much, and no one missed him—only the birds. Then, one morning, more than a hundred of the bustling, chattering little creatures began to flutter about his place in an agitated manner and peck at his back windows. Neighbours became alarmed and summoned police. They found poor August and learned that he was too sick to call a doctor. His birds, he told them, were hungry and wanted their daily bread crumbs. Would they please feed his little friends? Of course, Herr Duerschmidt, and gladly. But some of the neighbours were not so sure that hunger was the cause of this winged distress; for the clatter, mark you, had subsided the instant help had

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