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Fluoridation Studied

The addition of any substance to the public water supply is a serious matter, certainly not to be undertaken lightly or without full information on the consequences.

A proper study of the question, however, is more than warranted by the value of the plan if it proves unobjectionable.

The Federation of Mayors and Municipalities has received a report on the subject from the Health League of Canada and it will no doubt receive consideration at the forthcoming meeting of the Federation.

It seems clear from references to the various reports that fluoridation is safe under proper supervision. The fact that taking many times the required amount daily may cause the mottling of teeth and that substantial amounts act as a poison are not insuperable objections to adoption of the plan.

Clover Seed Duty Jumped

So much has been said about the U. S. tariff hoist on watches, remarks the Financial Post, that a similar move against a product of much more immediate concern to Canada has been almost ignored.

In both cases, while the local vote with any interest in the matter may have been important from the Republican Party standpoint, the U. S. industry which was getting the extra protection is insignificant.

Alsike, this report points out, is only grown in commercial quantity in three states of the union, Oregon, California, and Idaho, where, it is significant, the political race between the Democrats and Republicans will be close this fall.

Winning Survival Fight

North American caribou, moose and buffalo are winning their fight for survival. These and other big game animals which faced extinction now are roaming the wilds in growing numbers.

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dwindled to fewer than 600. The American and Canadian governments have established bison herds in national refuges. The two governments and private ranchers now own 35,000 head.

The shaggy muskox disappeared from Alaska long ago, but some of these large sheeplike beasts were transported from Greenland and again wander across the barren tundra of the mainland.

Moose were fast fading from northern forests, but favorable conditions recently brought such an increase that hunting controls have been relaxed to avert overpopulation.

Bighorn sheep, both the Rocky Mountain and desert species, are also becoming more plentiful. Government refuges preserve many. Others roam wild in Colorado, Idaho and Montana.

Dall sheep, white counterpart of the western bighorn, propagate in Canada and Alaska. Legal hunting is limited to adult rams, and the Dall, like the western bighorn, is taken chiefly for its value as a trophy.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of Prince Richard, 1944.

A large-scale international civil defence exercise will be a feature of the 17th annual conference of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities which is being held next week at Windsor, Ont.

Ottawa now announces that the R. C. A. F. observed in 1947 the circular ice island whose discovery was made public by the U. S. Air Force in 1950.

The decision of the directors of the Royal Bank of Canada to change the position of shareholders from holding book stock to ordinary registered stock reflects the dropping of double liability in connection with the ownership of bank shares.

The Battle of Le Cateau was fought this date 1914. In the general withdrawal the three divisions of the British 1st corps found it necessary to stand against seven German divisions.

Mr. Patrick Nicholson, Ottawa columnist, reports the following incident of a trans-Canada tour just completed by a group of newsmen from the countries of our NATO allies.

Canada exports both gold and by-products of atomic fission but a recent shipment of radio-active gold from London, England, to the Manitoba Cancer Relief and Research Unit in Winnipeg, indicates that Britain also exports radio-active isotopes.



"Shoes That Set My Feet A-Dancing --"

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.

IS THE U. S. IN DANGER?

Sir—One cannot help thinking, has the greatness of the United States turned their head? Is history repeating itself? Is she saying, "Is not this great Babylon which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence for the glory of my majesty?"

A serious crime is committed every few seconds in the United States and the worst crimes are sometimes done with no other motive except the thrill of seeing blood flow and the victims writhing in agony.

The largest food store chain in the U. S. has sliced the price of its three brands of coffee by ten cents a pound. Can this be said to figure in a trend back to what some American politicians are fond of calling "normalcy"?

A major United Kingdom airline proposes a fly-boat service directly across the Atlantic, with a revival of interest in robust flying machines that can be built larger and larger without making any demands on land for room to take off.

Who says newspaper men are hard boiled? What could be more delicate than the Associated Press report from Hollywood concerning the operation undergone by Theda Bara, original vamp of the silent movie era?

Canada is rapidly assuming in the eyes of the world a position as the country where tremendous ideas can be put into practice. Nothing seems too big for her. Let the committee that meets later this month to talk about the St. Lawrence seaway keep this in mind.

A frequent cause for complaint in this city are the untidy streets—and litter that on windy days dances down the gutters and on calm days remains an eyesore on sidewalk and grass verge.

The Age Old Story I will praise the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

The world, the flesh and the devil are said to be the trinity of evils that threaten humanity, but of these the world is more deadly by far than the other two together.

The hope of the United States is in the Christian Church, and in her leadership are strong and good men and women. Just now there is a promising spiritual movement within the church here.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was so brief a photograph didn't have enough time to set up his camera to take a picture of the United States president.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Why all the fuss about Italian-boy haircuts. We think they're fine —on Italian boys. —London Free Press.

Pride is to character what the attic is to the house — the highest part, and generally the most empty. —Galt Evening Reporter.

While some progress has been made, it's still true that war is better at abolishing nations than nations are at abolishing war. —Toronto Star.

A mental drug used in a London hospital is said to make adults feel childish. Lots of them can feel that way without any drug at all. —Daily Times-Gazette.

A most dangerous type of thinking is that a war would achieve what one would wish achieved. That applies whether this line of thought exists on the other side, or this side, of the Iron Curtain. —Ottawa Journal.

The barometer of love is one of the best barometers of economic conditions. This is illustrated by statistics for Canadian marriages in July. They are down 13 percent from the similar month of 1953.

At Jasper's famous golf course, green keepers and fairway waters have been having a spot of trouble with bears. Pond of talking showers in the summertime, the bears learned how to turn the handles on the valves of the water-pipes and set the sprays going.

It may be unwritten but there is a rule of the sidewalk. It is kept to the right. Where this is understood pedestrians can move easily even in rush hours on the busiest streets of a community.

It is just possible, however, that there is a connection between the predicament of man in 1954 and the antics of his pre-historic forbears. If the scientists can find out exactly where homo sapiens emerged, they might be able, by methods known only to themselves, to trace a picture of historic causes which led to certain historic effects.

There still are primitive tribes in both Asia and Africa but they differ from one another in many important ways. The pigmies of South West Africa, for instance, while very backward culturally, are said to be far ahead of other tribes intellectually; indeed, one noted historian has suggested that, should our present civilization come to an end, these African pigmies could very well be the architects of a new and better one.

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THE PASSING SCENE

By Observer MAN'S CRADLE

Reports from Johannesburg, South Africa, say that two teams of explorers are now in that region searching for the cradle of man. This is distinct from the cradle of civilization which (as was reported in an editorial in this paper some time ago), is supposed to have been in the little village of Jarma, Iraq.

It seems that all over South Africa and adjoining areas there are caves in which ape men are supposed to have lived approximately one million years ago. This supposition, long held by anthropologists, was given some confirmation a few months ago when a jawbone showing 13 teeth in a fairly good state of preservation was discovered lying around in a cave.

The present search is for the birthplace of the race. The British Museum is sponsoring one of the explorer teams; the other is being financed by a South African syndicate and led by scientists from Witwatersrand University.

What were the causes of this apparent inconsistency in the development of the race? And why did the race go ahead with leaps and bounds in far removed regions, while in its natural domicile it has been held up very noticeably? We may be sure that these questions and others like them are being thought over by the explorers as they go in and out of the caves where pre-historic man began to walk upright and to look up to the sky above him in wonderment and fear.

Excitement at Crapaud There has been considerable excitement of late in the vicinity of Crapaud. A bear was seen, first near Sturdy's Mills, then in a field near the residence of Mr. Thomas Rogerson. Two little girls who were berry picking in the field ran home crying, and stated that they had seen bruin. The next place he put in an appearance was a small grove near the Parsonage. Some parties were berry picking, and observing something strange in the grove gave the alarm. The people turned out en masse, armed with pitchforks, pistols, guns and other weapons to capture poor bruin, but they did not succeed, and he is still at large. The matter has been seriously talked over, and the general opinion is, that it was not a bear, but a black cow. —The Examiner, Aug. 5, 1882.

NAVY ESTABLISHED The Royal Canadian Navy was established in 1910.

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