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FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1957

Crux Of The Problem

No one who has the slightest knowledge of Middle East affairs would declare that the Arab states are wholly to blame for the current trouble. From the time of her establishment as a sovereign state Israel, too, has been guilty of provocative acts from time to time.

The Arab states, on the other hand, have one common and compelling aim—the absolute extermination of Israel. This applies not only to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, both of which are more or less under the influence of the Soviet Union, but also to Iraq which, as a member of the Baghdad Pact, is pledged to resist Communist aggression and infiltration.

This, of course, is the crux of the Middle East problem. In course of time Egypt and the others will probably patch up their differences with Britain and France, if only for economic reasons. But they will never enter into peaceful relations with Israel—unless they are made to understand once and for all that, regardless of their wishes, Israel is there to stay and they may as well make the best of the simple geographical and political fact.

A Good Cause
Among the several briefs which have been presented to the Legislature's Committee on Education none, one feels safe in saying, is of greater importance or urgency than that presented by the P.E.L. Association for Retarded Children.

Obviously, retarded children are unable to keep up with children of average ability in the public schools; and, of course, most teachers are not qualified to handle this particular problem. However, the experience of those who have been trained in this modern branch of social service is that most children in that category—more than a thousand in this Province, according to the best available information—are able under proper conditions and guidance to reach a fair level of educational attainment.

As pointed out in the brief, the parents of retarded children pay their taxes for educational purposes just as other citizens do. It is there-

fore right that their children should share in the benefits. Care of the retarded already has been given a good start in this Province, thanks to a number of benevolent and public-spirited citizens. A financial grant in the required amount from public funds would be money well spent. At the same time it would indicate a public awareness of the need to give every child, regardless of his or her mental abilities, a chance to develop to the fullest possible extent.

Unusual Opinion

The following rather unusual opinion is attributed to the Most Rev. Geoffrey Fisher, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of All England: "The world would be a happier place if people did not know as much. It is the duty of scientists to explore science; but they share the secrets they uncover, and the knowledge is too much for other people."

This is certainly a change from the generally accepted view that the more knowledge people possess the more able they are to live the good and abundant life. It will come as a shock to most educators and all humanists who believe that most of the world's trouble is the result of ignorance rather than of knowledge. There is much food for thought in it, nevertheless. Anyone can think of any number of persons who bother their heads very little indeed about the findings of science but who, somehow, manage to live fairly well-balanced lives free of serious doubts and fears.

It is probable, of course, that, as often happens, His Grace was quoted "out of context." In all likelihood what he meant was that technical knowledge that lacks proper moral guiding is the thing that makes for instability and chaos. And with that view there will be almost universal agreement, since the proof is on a thousand newspaper pages every day.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In an angry moment Mr. Donald Gordon, C.N.R. President, told a Commons Committee: "If the people of Newfoundland are reasonable (in their complaints about rail service) I have yet to see any evidence of it." He had better wait a while before crossing over to Port Aux Basques.

In Purcellville, Va., civil rights champions are rejoicing over a victory won by a Negro. He was allowed to borrow a book on how to make draperies from the public library! It's incredible that in a country that is called the "home of the free" such a little thing should be considered newsworthy.

A report says that consumption of newsprint in the United States is a little lower than at the same time last year, while the output of American mills during February was 15.5% higher than a year ago. Great efforts are being made in the United States to make newspapers and other users of newsprint less dependent on Canadian producers.

U.S. Secretary of State Dulles says that although he favours the European common market, he "questions the wisdom of the 6 nations' plan to raise common tariff walls that would affect U.S. trade in Europe." Why does he think the 6 nations went to the trouble of organizing the pool in the first place? Just for the fun of it?

At the opening of the Newfoundland Legislature Premier Smallwood bemoaned the numerical weakness of the Opposition and pleaded with the four Conservative members to "hammer away at the Government without mercy." It was a fine talk; but it's a safe bet that Mr. Smallwood is thankful that he is sitting on the Government side instead of on the hammering side.

This Province is not the only place where teachers are disturbed over the discrepancy between their pay and that offered persons with less academic standing. In Tallahassee, Fla., for instance, 80 teachers protested to the Governor of the State who had asked the Legislature to vote his cook a salary of \$3,600 a year. "We would like to remind you," they told His Excellency, "that the average beginning salary for a 4-year college graduate who teaches in Florida is less than \$3,000 a year."



MORE TROUBLE WITH FIGURES

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.

GOVT RESPONSIBILITY

Sir.—In his speech in the Legislature the Premier is reported to have said "the responsibility of presenting the Island's fiscal claims at Ottawa is squarely on the shoulders of the Federal Members of Parliament." If the Premier made such a statement, then I respectfully say that the Premier is mistaken.

The federal members, representing the people of the different Provinces owe their first duty to Canada as a whole, and secondly to their constituents.

Ever since we entered into the Confederation, the claims of the Province as against the Government of Canada have been presented by the Government of the Province, and there have been many such presentations. Our Federal members have never been requested to make such claims, and were not expected to do so.

At the request of the Premier, I gave him an outline of such claims, and I understand that they were communicated to the Premier of New Brunswick, and the former Premier of Nova Scotia, Mr. Hicks. What consideration was given them by these gentlemen, I do not know.

Compensation in respect of the Northern Lands part of Canada, given by the Canadian Government to all the Provinces except the Maritimes, has never been denied or repudiated, and in fact was acknowledged by two prominent men, the late Premier of Quebec, Mr. Gouin, and by the late Prime Minister of Canada, Hon. Mr. Borden.

There is also the claim in respect to the natural resources and lands granted to Alberta and Saskatchewan and Manitoba, in respect of which they had been given subsidies in lieu of them, but when these lands and natural resources were given to them, they retained their subsidies.

It is true that other provinces besides the Maritimes had an equal claim in this respect, but they were fully compensated by the grant of the Northern Lands, while the Maritimes were left to hold the bag and go nothing.

Manitoba, which entered Confederation much on the same basis as Prince Edward Island, had its subsidies reduced a number of times, and finally was placed on the same basis as the other Western Provinces.

Prince Edward Island, under a former Government, did make a claim in respect of the Northern Lands, but at the time it was claimed that these lands were of unknown value, and were then more of a liability than an asset. Since that time they have become of immense value, and it is high time that our claim in this respect should be repeated and strongly urged. It is up to the Government of the Province to do so, and not to lay the blame on the Federal Members.

I am, Sir, etc. A. E. ARSENAULT 139 Upper Prince Street Charlottetown.

SALT OF COMMON SENSE
Sir.—What's the matter with education? Only a precious few today want to teach school, but everybody singly and collectively wants to talk and write about education. Every library in Christendom, I fancy, is crammed with volumes written on this subject telling what it once was, what it now is, and what it is going to be in the not too distant future—not necessarily learning by its own light, but by the light of a few advanced educationists' tells us.

Protecting Northern Seals

National Geographic Society

Washington—Fur seals of the North Pacific always winter in the south and go home for the summer.

Therein lies a story of near tragedy. This homing instinct makes things go easy for fur-hunters that the seals would be as dead as dodos were it not for a historic pact that has been newly revised.

Top-hatted diplomats of the United States, Russia, Japan, and Great Britain (representing Canada) took the seals' plight to heart in 1911, and four-power guardianship stopped their relentless slaughter. Now the four protective powers have signed a new agreement. It reapportions each nation's share of the limited annual harvest and provides for a broad new study of seal life financed from revenue.

BACK TO HOME ISLANDS

Northern fur seals are known to science as Callorhinus ursinus, the National Geographic Society says. These warm-blooded creatures have milk glands and lungs, but they are champion swimmers capable of staying at sea all winter and migrating 5,000 miles.

Since time unknown, the seals have flocked back to the isles of their birth to breed. Most converge on the Pribilofs (U.S.) in the Bering Sea. Smaller populations summer on the Commander Islands (Russia) and Robben Island, Japanese-held until the end of World War II.

Dark bulls come first to stake out homesteads on the rocky beaches and hillsides. They fight, feud, and fuss to hold their claims. Then, as spring turns to summer, each day brings waves of silver-brown cows, heavy with young conceived the previous year. Each waiting bull rounds up the largest possible harem; the big-

est and bravest may win a hundred "wives." Weak males and those too young to mate gather in forlorn bands. The age-old rhythm of herd life begins. On arrival each gravid cow gives birth to a roly-poly, sleek black pup. Mating takes place anew. The mothers alternately feed their babies and put out to sea for week-long fishing trips. Gorged with creamy milk, the pups sleep and learn to swim.

The bulls' harassed beyond all reason. The job of guarding a huge harem from poachers keeps the "beachmasters" so busy that they have time neither to feed nor sleep. At summer's end, they are nervous wrecks, rib-lean and comb-scared.

WHEN WINTER COMES
Winter gales drive the seals from the islands. Cows and young males fan out as far south as Mexican waters. Pups cope for themselves; many are eaten by killer whales or die in storms. Bulls tend to stay in Alaska waters, no doubt to get a good start on the islands in spring.

The bulls' prodigious role in herd life makes possible the harvest of seals. From 60,000 to 70,000 Pribilof bachelors—males can be taken for their plush undercoats each year without affecting the herd's size. Average gross value: \$5,000,000.

Pribilof seals probably numbered 4,000,000 when the United States bought the islands—and Alaska—from Russia in 1867. But schooner after schooner prowled the northern waters, killing the animals at sea as well as in rookeries. The ruthless, get-rich-quick business resulted in the murder of sealers as well as seals. By 1911, the total herd had declined to 150,000 and faced extinction. Now it is stabilized at 1,500,000.

schools of our province, "that every good system of education should include a thorough training in English, History, and Arithmetic," and he stopped at that.

A splendid idea that of Mr. George Saville's, and eloquently expressed, I remember hearing or reading somewhere that Aristotle had a similar idea in respect of any good system of education, save that he would give the first place in it, which Mr. Saville would now assign to English.

And now, if a little of the salt of good robust common sense should be deemed advisable in the deliberations of the present Select Committee of the Legislature on Education, would not Mr. George Saville, M.L.A. be the best man imaginable to sprinkle and inject it?

I am, Sir, etc. M. McK. Argyle Shores.

SENATOR GRANT QUERIED
Sir.—In your issue of March 23, Senator Grant boasts that fifty years ago he was "one of the six best teachers in Kings County and I was as happy then as I am today."

Why did he not continue teaching?

I am, Sir, etc. AN OBSERVER Mt. Tryon, P.E.I.

FARMERS' FINANCIAL STATUS
Sir.—I have just concluded a belated reading of the speech of the Hon. George MacKay on the Draft Address which appeared in the Charlottetown Guardian of recent date. I would like through the medium of your columns to take exception to that part of his speech that dealt with the financial status of the farmers.

There is hardly a place (referring to farm homes) on the Island but has an air of prosperity about it," Mr. MacKay said. "Almost every farmer has a car and a tractor, while some had a car, a truck and a tractor." He recalled a recent conversation with a Bank manager who told him that bank savings deposits among farmers have

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

TALK YOURSELF TO SLEEP
Every once in a while, a radio or television comedian will go through the routine of talking himself to sleep.

He'll say: "All right now, go to sleep toes, go to sleep feet, go to sleep fingers, arm," and so on. It never fails to bring a laugh from the audience.

Actually, this type of suggestion might really help you get to sleep. At least it might help you to relax. And real relaxation is something many of us need in today's speeded-up world.

BEST POSITION
If you have difficulty getting to sleep tonight, try "talking yourself to sleep." The best position for relaxing probably is on your back.

Close your eyes first. Don't clamp them tight, just sort of let them fall shut. Then let your jaws rest. Keep your lips together lightly. Don't use force to press them together.

Then concentrate, but don't actually talk aloud, on the following: "Relax arms, relax arms, relax more. Relax more and more and more."

Each time you exhale, think your arms into relaxation. Then try the same thing with your legs. I don't think there is any need of telling your fingers and toes to relax.

However, your chest should be told to relax too. Do this in the same manner. As you exhale, think to yourself: "Relax chest, relax chest, relax more and more and more."

Of course you can include your shoulders and even your scalp if you want to. TAKE FIVE MINUTES

At first, I think you might spend as long as five minutes on each part of the body. Long before you have completed the process you should be asleep.

If not, at least you should be pretty well relaxed. As each night passes, it probably will take less and less time to become fully relaxed. It's worth trying.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
Q. S. M.: Why do I have weakness and numbness in my legs when I smoke?

Answer: The weakness and numbness in the legs may be due to blood vessel spasm which can occur in persons who smoke excessively. On the other hand, there may be no relationship between these symptoms and smoking.

A careful examination by your physician is advisable.

The Age Old Story

Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace.

The Poet's Corner

FALSE ALARM
Now snowsuit knees begin to fray
And litten pairs go half astray
And tots exhibit feet of clay;

Now idle sleds commence to rust
And roller skates become a must,
Returning robins readjust;

Now sunshine graces each demeanor
And muddy lawns grow daily greener,
We send our woollens to the cleaner;

In readiness the earth awaits
Spring's bonus days at bargain rates,
Poised are the poet laureates

Their vernal verses to compose,
Reviewing novel rhymes for rose
In cadence clear, yet grandiose,
And then it snows.

—Maxine W. Kumin, in the New York Herald Tribune.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(March 29, 1932)

A proposal to establish a county Academy at Summerside will be submitted to the Provincial Government today by a delegation representing the Summerside Board of Trade, the Town Council, and the Summerside School Board. It is proposed that the Summerside High School make provision for the teaching of grades 11 and 12.

"Resolved that the Minister of Education be petitioned to make such changes as would be necessary for the implementation of the larger administrative units of the rural schools of this Province" was one of the more important resolutions passed at the closing session of the Teachers' Convention yesterday.

TEN YEARS AGO
(March 29, 1947)
Disappointment with the transportation provided in Saint John for the despatch of Island potatoes for the British Markets was voiced strongly yesterday by Mr. J. W. Roulter, Manager of the Potato Growers Association. Over 700 cars have left this province to fill the 3,000,000 bushel British order, but less than one half of this number have been loaded.

The cost to the Provincial Government of filling the dump at the City approaches of Hillsboro Bridge was \$3,644.19 according to information tabled yesterday. The total cost of the construction of the concrete parking space on the south side of the Court House was \$2,718.28. The contractors were the County Construction Co.

MAXIMS

The true use of speech is not so much to express our wants as to conceal them.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Some Canadian forces in Germany will be under command of a German general against whom Canadian soldiers fought in two world wars. Times certainly do change, and not slowly. —Port Arthur News Chronicle

Not a single case of paralytic polio has been found among the 200,000 school children in Chicago who have received all three Salk vaccine shots. This fact was revealed by Dr. Herman Bundesen, president of the Chicago Board of Health. It was the first report of results of sizeable mass inoculation that has been made. —Detroit Free Press

Scotland lost about 14,000 of her people who moved to other countries last year. An estimated 8,000 of them came to Canada. Their preference is valued here. No immigrants are more welcome. In coming to this country they make a great migratory tradition. It is a mistake to think of them becoming lost to Scotland when they come to Canada. —Cape Breton Post

An after-dinner speaker says he has one speech which never seems to go out of date, although he has been using it since 1938. It's called "The Year Of Decision." —Orillia Packet and Times

A 13-year-old Hungarian refugee girl named Sibi Hagl, now living in Montreal, recently watched Elvis Presley on television and said: "What a crazy boy. He just stands there yelling and shaking." This comment strengthens the conviction, among oldersters at any rate, that these newcomers are going to make pretty solid citizens. —Ottawa Citizen

The first robin has been seen. Polly-wogs have been reported in the streams of the district. Pussys willows are beginning to peek out, particularly in the deep swamp areas where the sun penetrates... and the cold winds do not. Any day now the crows will be heard cawing over the rocky cliffs which surround the city. Even the grass is getting green in certain sheltered areas. —Owen Sound Sun-Times

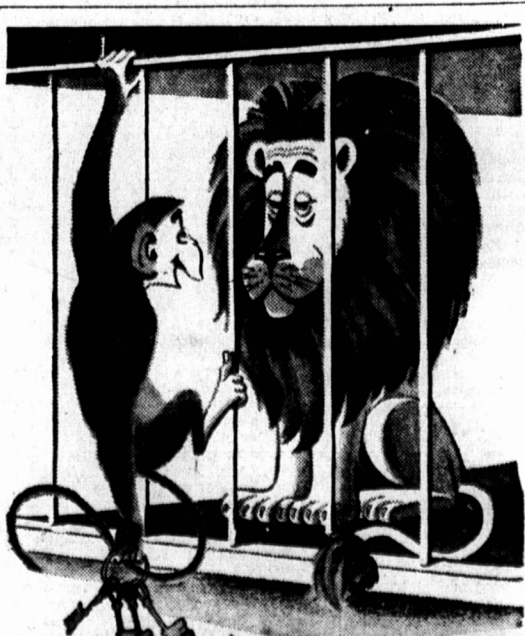
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