

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1954

Trees From Japan

No country in the world has suffered more economic loss from forest fires than Newfoundland. Until quite recent years the annual devastations were regarded as being unfortunate but inevitable.

With the growing importance of the pulp and paper industry to the new province's economy every scientific aid to the prevention and control of fires has been called into service; of late years there has been a noticeable decline in both the frequency and intensity of fire destruction.

It is not long ago when the idea of bringing a tree from Japan to Newfoundland would have been considered a foolish dream without substance or promise.

Canadian National Report

The annual report of the Canadian National Railways gives the financial picture of the C.N.R. operations but it gives much more as well. It tells in story and picture and graph of the many activities and services operated by Mr. Donald Gordon and the many Canadians associated with him.

Ten hotels and three summer resorts provide facilities and service for the accommodation of local and international conventions, supplementing railway service and also being an important part of Canada's tourist industry.

Through its Research and Development Department the railway maintains up-to-date information on areas suitable for industrial expansion and supplies industry with advice on markets, transportation, and many other factors affecting the choice of factory and warehouse sites.

Two coastal steamships on the West Coast and cargo liners between Canadian ports and Bermuda, British West Indies and British Guiana as well as thirteen ships in the Newfoundland coastal service are operated by Canadian National Steamships.

A far-flung network of telegraph, telephone and radio channels operated by the company provide circuits for news, radio and television, meteorological maps and reports, stock quotations and other purposes.

The express department provides pick-up and delivery service for millions of shipments each year and transmits money in the form of money orders, travellers' cheques and other paper.

Last year a new bus operation was introduced as part of a through bus-and-rail service between Winnipeg and Flin Flon, Manitoba. The buses have been scheduled to provide connections with regular trains running between Kamsack and Winnipeg.

A trailer-on-flat-car service was introduced experimentally between Montreal and Toronto. Co-ordinated truck-and-rail operations were expanded by the addition of five new track routes. This Province, by the way, had one of the earliest services of this nature, as it was also in the forefront in the programme of dieselization.

Something New

It seems that something new is emerging in the American political system. Ever since the constitution was first set up no official function, save that of presiding over the Senate, has been allotted to the Vice-President.

The present occupant of the office, Mr. Nixon, is the first to be given an opportunity of attracting public attention in his own right. Last summer he was sent on a fact-finding mission to the Far East and, apparently, he acquitted himself well; so much so that some of his recommendations have been incorporated into the current United States foreign policy.

Constitutional changes in any country come slowly and there is no hint at the moment that any change is contemplated which would provide for additional specific functions of the Vice-Presidency. These are days, however, when semi-official measures, having been found serviceable, are likely to acquire respectable and popular status without waiting for formal re-interpretation of constitutional intents and purposes.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is reported that manufacturers are seeking a new name for a girdle, claiming that women find the term distasteful. This is nothing new. The fair sex became tired of stays and turned to corsets which in turn became unpopular.

The outstanding position of this Province in swine breeding is very properly recognized in the appointment of Mr. W. Wylie Gibson of Marshfield to the Advanced Registry Board. Mr. Gibson's own contributions to the development of improved breeding stock also justify his selection for the appointment.

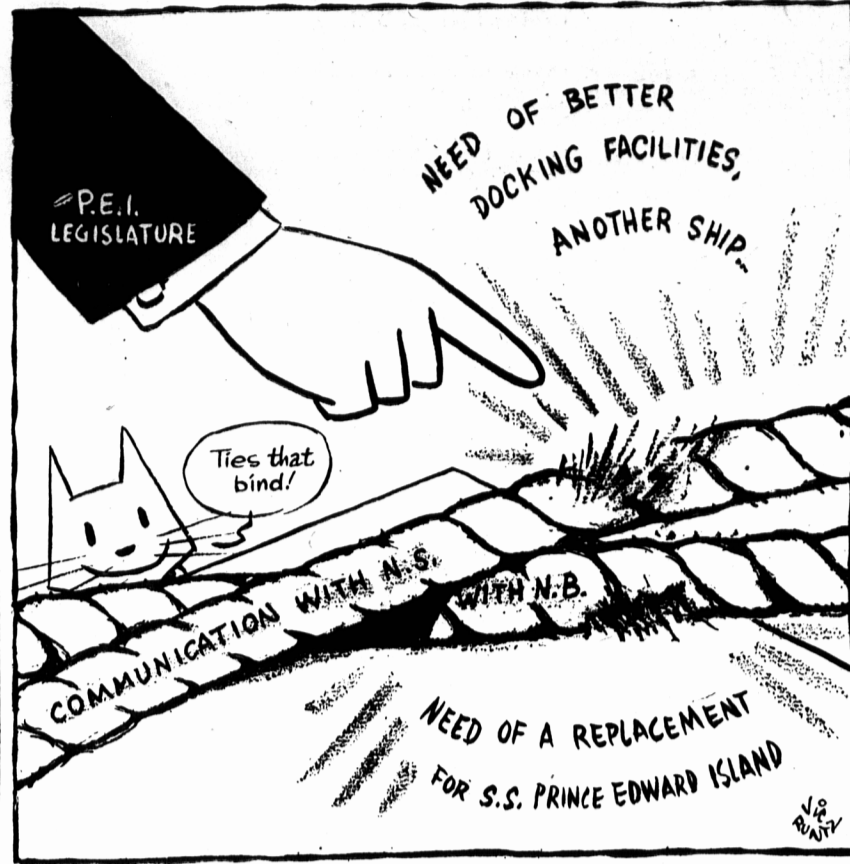
Sarah Bernhardt, French actress, died this date 1923. The "Divine Sarah" by the age of thirty had taken the place on the French stage left vacant by Rachel. Much of her earlier work was with the Comedie Francaise but it was only when she broke with it, at the cost of heavy damages, that she was free to make the triumphal tours that carried her fame throughout the world.

"Louis Riel, Patriot or Rebel" is the title of a booklet published by the Canadian Historical Association and written by Dr. George F. G. Stanley, head of the department of history of Royal Military College, Kingston. The author goes into this chapter of Canadian history in a most interesting way, showing the conflict between a free and primitive way of life and the inexorable march of civilization.

"In the heart of London" has long been a phrase with strong connotations but no precise meaning. Now, however, the Ministry of Transport has decided to measure all distances from London from Charing Cross or, more exactly, from the base of the memorial to Queen Eleanor of Castille, wife of Edward I which stands in front of Charing Cross station.

Canada is represented at a conference at Karachi which although it has received infinitely less publicity than the Prime Minister's journey may well have more lasting results. The Pakistan Institute of International Affairs will be host to delegates from all commonwealth countries for another week. Mr. Edgar McInnis, Canadian president of the organization, is a member of the delegation from this country.

Signs Of Fraying



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.

CULTURE ACQUIRED IN SPARE MOMENTS

Sir.—In your Forum of March 17, Mr. W. I. Green says, "I knew men who matched their minds against the difficulties of a college course and made a good record because they burned the midnight oil while others slept." Here you have an important element in the pursuit of culture, — the will-to-acquire, and in self-improvement the best of everything in the post-college period in life.

In nine cases out of ten, how a layman uses his spare moments determines whether or not his self-propulsion enables him to be a man of culture. From low to high estate by the thousands everywhere these people are hurdling almost insurmountable obstacles.

At the foot of the ladder stood the descendants of the Negro slaves of the Southern States. In civil rights they had everything to gain and nothing to lose but the unhealed sores left by their chains. Yet despite this handicap, they have produced many leaders among whom are such outstanding examples as George Washington Carver, Booker T. Washington, and Ralph J. Bunche.

George Washington Carver as an analytical chemist did for the enrichment of the soil of the Southern States and the process of his crops what Luther Burbank on a lesser scale did in originating new plants. His biography by Rackham Holt, is a classic no doubt more interesting to many readers than Boswell's Johnson.

Booker T. Washington's tender years were spent in salt furnaces, coal mines and other pick-up odds and ends. A homeless orphan he learned the hard way, often having to sleep like the animals wherever shelter could be found. At the age of fifteen he trekked to Hampton Institute. Here he received a three-year course of studies which he paid for by his service as Institute janitor. Henceforth his life work was devoted to the uplift of his race.

In that work he became one of the greatest orators of his day, and traveled much on lecture tours in the United States, England and the continent of Europe. (I was privileged to have seen him, for incognito, he had a quiet day's rest in Charlottetown. At that time there were two passenger boats plying weekly between Boston and here, calling at some intermediate ports. He and his party made the trip here on one of these boats.) Upon his return from Europe he was honored by degrees from Dartmouth and Harvard Universities; and leaders of education gave him a great reception which was held at one of the big Statler hotels where earlier in life he had served in the scullery. Tuskegee Institute was the crowning work of his life for his race and for humanity.

Ralph J. Bunche, statesman, educator, and member of the United Nations, received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard. He was the first Negro to be a division head in the U. S. Department of State. In 1946 he became chief research analyst of OSS under the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Indialogue

By Gerald Steele 4th Year S.D.U. Student

POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING

It used to be said at the Seminary that Catholics and orthodox Hindus have at least one thing in common: they both strongly oppose on principle any plan of artificial birth-control. This is true. Unless one bases his stand on this subject of birth-control in relation to the problem of over-population, on something more firm than mere expediency, it is not unreasonable to expect so many to come to the same conclusion as to its remedy. If one does not have firm principles which distinguish between right and wrong, which assert that a lawful end does not justify an unlawful means, then it is only natural that the most obvious answer to the problem of over-population, with reference to nothing but momentary expediency, is a program of birth-control.

However many reliable economists, from a purely economic point of view, oppose this plan as not offering a solution, and in fact expose it as leading to adverse ends. This writing will attempt to demonstrate the point of view of those who advocate family planning of one form or another, and the plan as it is being tried.

Population figures by themselves are meaningless when not considered in terms of density of settlement, gross production, available employment, health facilities, housing, educational institutions and other factors which the population makes use of in searching out an adequate standard of living. To say that India has a population of over 360 million is by itself a fact. To further say that it increases by over five million each year makes that fact more significant because all cultivable land is in use and new areas cannot be reclaimed sufficiently fast to accommodate the additional

ministers, medical doctors, and lawyers; university graduates who had to submit to this indignity. Moreover the books and magazine articles they were reading bore evidence they were moving ahead with their goal-post.

I knew a merchant who ran a large business on Boylston Street, Boston. His residence was on Myrtle Avenue, Ocean Spray, one of the East Boston beaches. In commuting between the two places and in other spare moments, like Elihu Burritt, he mastered a half-dozen European languages. Moreover, he read everything the Boston Public Library could provide on the culture of these language groups. He made a yearly business trip to Europe and while there saw for himself the great museums, art centres, architectural buildings, etc. He was a cultured gentleman at home or abroad. Every night he brought home some surprise delicacy and the men and maid help shared equally with the family. I served as the family coachman.

Elihu Burritt, mentioned above, was a blacksmith's apprentice, working ten to twelve hours daily; yet by candle light in his spare moments he mastered the leading European languages. There was no school coddling in those days; he had to think hard, develop his reason and judgment, or the intellectual world was not his: I am here referring to the ordinary individual.

Michael Faraday was the son of a blacksmith. At thirteen he went to work for a London book-binder. At night when the employees had dispersed he remained and devoured what was best in these inestimable volumes.

These cases aptly illustrate Longfellow's words: "The heights of great men reached and kept Were not attained by sudden flight, But they, while their companions slept, Were toiling upward in the night." I am, Sir, etc. MINOR SAXON.

Notes By The Way

Courses in corrective sleep are given by an American college. Showing just what these modern universities will do to show they're wide awake. —Hamilton Spectator

An Italian has bet he can eat a whole automobile. If it works, this could solve both the used car and world food problems. —Edmonton Journal

A company has advertised in a Montreal newspaper for "experienced lady trapecers." A bachelor friend of ours, who says he has had considerable experience at this sort of thing, has written to see just what type of ladies they want traced. —Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

To say that the public as a whole is aware of the cost of education, and the details and implications of the costs, would be to challenge the record in Nova Scotia. A report prepared under the aegis of the Joint Committee on Public Attitudes Toward the Schools of Nova Scotia has this to say on the basis of the recent survey: "They (the citizens whose opinions formed the groundwork of the report) admitted knowing

little about the financing and administration of their system of education." And that is just about as alarming a revelation as could be imagined in these times. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Potted music is fine. Radio, television and recordings have done a tremendous job of bringing appreciation of good music to many people. This growing popular taste combined last night with more-than-ordinary local pride to fill the first school auditorium for the first public concert of our new Fredericton Civic Orchestra. I was a triumph both for the members of the orchestra and its organizers and, undoubtedly more of all, for the genius of Janis Kainins. Mr. Kainins, as conductor and inspiration of the orchestra, triumphs for, in two short years, he has brought an unorganized group of Fredericton instrumentalists together into a single musical entity which did not exist before receiving the Kainins touch. —Fredericton Daily Gleaner.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

HARVEY'S DEPARTURE

"On Thursday last, at 10 a.m. His Excellency Sir John Harvey, accompanied by the members of His Majesty's Council, and a number of other gentlemen, left Government House and proceeded to the Wharf, where a guard of honour of the 34th Regiment, under command of Capt. Broderick, presented arms on his approach. After taking leave of the gentlemen who accompanied him, and of the inhabitants generally, in a short speech, expressive of the interest he should always feel in the welfare of Prince Edward Island, he stepped on board the steamer Cape Breton, under a salute from George's Battery.

"His excellency was immediately followed by Lady Harvey and Miss Harvey, when the steamer got under weigh, the crowd at the wharf giving three hearty cheers, which were returned from the steamer. At seven o'clock the same evening they arrived at Shediac, but the tide being too low to land the carriage, His Excellency and the ladies remained on board until six next morning. Immediately after landing, they set out for St. John, at which place they expected to arrive on Saturday evening.

"Immediately after the departure of Sir John Harvey, the Hon. George Wright, as senior member of the Council, took the oath of office as Administrator of the Government, the duties of which he will continue to discharge until the arrival of Governor Fitzroy from England."

—Royal Gazette, May 30, 1837.

The Poet's Corner

EAGER SPRING

Whirl, snow, on the blackbird's chatter; You will not hinder his song to come. East wind, Sleepless, you cannot scatter Quince-bud, almond-bud, Little grape-hyacinth's Clustering brood, Nor unfurl the tips of the plum. No half-born stalk of a lily stops! There is sap in the storm-torn bush: And, ruffled by gusts in a snow-blurred cove, 'Pity to wait' sings a thrush.

Love, there are few Springs left for us; They go, and the count of them as they go Makes surer the count that is left for us. More than the east wind, more than I would put back these hours that bring Buds and bees and are lost; I would hold the night and the frost, To save for us one more Spring. —Gordon Bottomley.

The Age Old Story

Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Chas. R. McQuaid (Barrister, Solicitor, Notary, etc.), Byron J. Grant, O.D. (Optometrist), Gordon E. MacMillan (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), Allison M. Gillis, L.L.B. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), J. A. Carruthers, R.O. (Optometrist), McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants), H. R. Doane & Company (Chartered Accountants).