THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION
"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 1953

Newspaper Ownership

Guardian readers learn today of the changed proprietorship in this newspaper. From being owned by the sons of the late Mr. J. R. Burnett, it now has the Thomson Company Limited, Mr. Roy H. Thomson, president, as owner. That the change in ownership will not mean any change in policy is assured by Mr. Thomson. Management and staff remain in their present capacities.

The change is indicative of the times. At a very early date it was normal for publishing, editing and printing to be in the same hands but the task of producing a newspaper has steadily grown more complex and it is rare today to find the functions combined. To a certain extent the new specialization is an advantage. It relieves the editor of some of the problems which business must face. At the same time the publisher of several newspapers must be well aware that the conditions of successful publication are exacting and that news coverage and editorial policy are determined according to local conditions. To a surprising degree it is newspaper readers who make the newspaper. The dissimilarities between papers serving different communities is probably due in greater part to the difference in reader appeal than to any preference on the part of the producers.

The Guardian enjoys a particularly intimate relationship with its readers from Tignish to East Point. This has been a matter of pride and appreciation on the part of The Guardian management and staff and it is one which, we trust sincerely, will continue under the new setup. Certainly we can assure our readers that their interests will continue to be the touchstone of Guardian policy. It is hoped, indeed, that with improved equipment and facilities, a wider field of service will be open to this newspaper in matters affecting the welfare and development of our community and Province.

American Comment

Since 1952 Ottawa has lodged with Washington several increasingly sharp notes of protest against American trade discrimination. That this view is not confined to Canada is indicated in a recent article in Barron's Weekly, a New York financial publication, which charges bluntly that the United States has been "waging surreptitious warfare against the Dominion in the sphere of foreign economic policy."

"It is in agriculture," says the New York publication, "that the good neighbor policy is being most sorely abused. Like other great dairy nations, Canada was hard hit by the blanket import quotas on butter, cheese and similar products imposed by Secretary Brannan a few years ago. Now the protectionists are drawing a bead squarely on the Dominion's rural economy. For months they have been urging the Department of Agriculture to choke off the sale of Canadian rye in the U. S. market. As Senator Langer (R-N.D.) innocently pointed out, newly imposed wheat acreage restrictions have compelled the Dakota farmers to switch to rye and other grains this year. Steadfast so far in the matter of rye, agriculture has given way on oats. It has, in fact, been strongly urging that strict quotas be imposed on this commodity, and such action is expected shortly.

"Still another blow against Canadian interests is currently under study by the President's Agriculture Commission. That is the so-called two-price system for wheat, designed to replace existing price supports for this grain. Under it the American farmer would be guaranteed 100 per cent of parity for all wheat sold in this country for human consumption, over one-half of the total. So buttressed at home, he could then dump the remainder on the world market for whatever it would bring.

"This scheme might save the U. S. taxpayer some money, but it would be a dearly bought saving. For it would almost certainly smash world wheat prices and inflict great damage on other major wheat exporters, including the Dominion of Canada. Should it be adopted, a pilgrimage to Ottawa by the entire administration would scarcely suffice to restore amity between the two nations.

"Fortunately, there remains a lot of good sense on both sides of the border, and there is still reason to hope that the common cause will in the long run prevail over special interests. Such concord should rest on the clear realization that one era in U.S.-Canadian relations has ended, and another has begun.

"In the nineteenth century Anthony Trollope could with considerable justice say: 'In going from the States into Canada one is struck by the feeling that he is going from a richer country into a poorer, and from a greater country into one that is less.' That is scarcely true any longer. The Dominion now ranks among the Great Powers of the Western World. As such it quite properly should command more respect and attention in Washington than it has been getting."

Wider Horizons

The European Defence Community, commonly known as E. D. C., came into existence as a united effort on the part of a number of Western European nations to protect themselves in the event of an attack by Russian-led Communist forces. At first and until recently it was a purely military alliance based on the old and well tested dogma that in unity is strength.

Now, however, E. D. C. is looking towards wider horizons. If plans now being formulated by representatives of the nations involved are implemented there will evolve eventually a political and economic federation which may well turn out to be the most significant development in Europe's long and troubled history. Removal of trade restrictions and customs tariffs and the free movement of goods and persons from one member of the community to another will be achieved, in all likelihood, without much difficulty or delay. More difficult will be the surrender of ancient rivalries and prejudices which have plagued Europe ever since its recorded history began. This will take time and much patience on the part of the peoples concerned, but it will have to be done before any federation that may be devised can be expected to grow into a source of common strength in peace as well as in war.

A century ago or even a generation ago this tampering with the causes of historical feuds would have been impossible. Now, the awareness of a common danger which threatens not only their security but also their ability to survive at all as free nations may be able to break down the last barriers to a real and abiding unity. And who knows? It may be the forerunner of even bigger and better federations of the future.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Seeing-in" the New Year is a most important matter with Scots and citizens of Dundee are determined that the lack of a clock in City Square will not cause the uncertainty that it did last year. Undeterred by expense they have decided to fire a rocket at the stroke of midnight.

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The resumption of diplomatic relations between Britain and Iran is a very great gain. Many questions are outstanding between the successors of Premier Mossadegh and the British Government but they could not even be effectively discussed until the long-standing diplomatic relationship was resumed.

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The Bermuda decision to accept Russia's proposal for a four-power meeting of foreign ministers represents a considerable concession on the part of the United States. The proposed terms of meeting might well have determined Président Eisenhower to turn down the proposal. That he accepted is a clear indication of United States' will for peace.

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Ottawa's Mayor Charlotte Whitton wants to put some regularity into the gypsy-like existence of trailer dwellers. Her Worship is affronted that they do not settle down and pay taxes like good citizens. It can be said in their favour, however, that they add to the mobility of labour, a factor which housing shortages renders particularly pressing.

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A 58-page special edition of the Owen Sound Sun-Times celebrates that paper's centennial December 2, 1953. The present editor and publishers are to be congratulated both on the centennial edition and on the hundred years of newspaper publishing in which that paper matched and indeed led the development of the lake port from small town to thriving city.

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Herbert Spencer, English philosopher, died this date 1903. He early showed a disregard of authority and a reliance upon his own reasoning powers. He was started on a philosophical career by his opposition to the views expressed in Lyell's "Principles of Geology." He wrote numerous works and collected his efforts in "A System of Synthetic Philosophy." A product of the 19th century, it is not surprising that he should have developed what is essentially a mechanical philosophy. His four essays on "Education" have been translated into all the principle languages.

Out The Same Door

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.

RAINBOWS

(Grade XII Science)

Sir,—I believe it was "Ulric" who described the rainbow as "God's gorgeous mantle of light" which He has dressed upon the bone-work of science. Continuing with "Grade XII Science", I observed the latest beautiful rainbow on Thursday evening, marking its colours and their order or arrangement, and, in support of my previous argument that "light and sound", are one and the same phenomenon and origin, differing only in speed of vibration per second—I should have said "sound, heat and light" are one and the same phenomenon differing only in speed of vibration, increasing from audible, inaudible to visible, in the various colour effects of light, I should like to add that I believe the "bent ray" theory of the prism spectrum, to be in error, concluding that since each colour is the result of a different speed of vibration, the spectrum thus produced, is the result of the prismatic interference with the speed of the light waves. That is to say the "light waves or shaft waves" are slowed down as they pass through the graduated thicknesses of glass, and finally appear on the farther side of the prism at various speeds corresponding to the various colours, as explained in the "Light Theory (No. 1)" of Grade XII Science.

Grade XII Science makes this point, and shows "Light colours to be the result of short wave vibrations of different speeds", but it does not bridge the gap of relation between light and sound waves, and speaks of "bent rays" rather than "lessend speed" for production of the spectrum. They say white light is a combination of all the colours, and is broken into its component parts by the prism, as a compound of some sort. I contend that "white light" is simply a very high speed of vibration an the air, with correspondingly short waves, and that, upon passing through the prism, that speed is slowed down to various speeds, producing their corresponding colours, as they pass through the diverse thicknesses of glass.

I believe further, that, if this speed of vibration continued to lower striking some medium, like the "closed or open pipe" in organs it would produce sound which continues to lower as the speed period lowers. Thunder, thus, could be the lowered speed of lightening vibration on the air, instead of the "concussion of air into the supposed created vacuum". The lowered speed of vibration could be caused by the density of the atmosphere or humidity clouds.

Since we know that lightening is always followed by thunder and that loudness or audibility is always increased when something solid like trees or houses are struck, and that heat, often fire, results from such from the contact, dependng upon the material and conduvtivity of the object, we can only conclude that "light" is the highest "visible" vibration to us, and, being intercepted, it is slowed down to heat period. Again all this fits in with the theory of "Resistance and Spark" production in electricity, and seems also to fit well with the "longer wave" theory of air vibration and its reinforcements in the "open or closed pipe (organs or wind instruments producing music)."

The "lens" and the focussing and divergence of light rays, with the varied results likewise support the theory, and correspond to the reinforcement or enriched quality of sound in the organ pipes, of much lower speed period. All students know of the sound film and the method of transforming light into sound.

Again, the various colours of flame resulting from various combustible chemicals indicate various speeds of vibrations of molecules which, doubtless, correspond to the various speeds of affinity (or activity) for oxygen. Young ladies and gentlemen of this year's science, in lab. work, already will have discovered the phenomena of the blue flame, the yellow, the orange, and the familiar white, variant to red, which I suggest could be traceable to and correspondent with the varied degrees of activity of different chemicals. Try them, if you haven't. I've had three years of lab. Didn't take science at university, so I forget which has which, now.

Then, if sound, heat and light have one and the same origin, you will be inclined to ask its source. For that, I go to the Great Creator of the Universe, God, who as Milton reminds us, set the spheres in Heaven's harmony—the motions of the earth, and the planets—the work of an Almighty Hand, producing regular motion—vibration, long waves, short waves high speed periods and low— resulting in light, heat, sound and life supporting earth.

This then accounts for our visual, as well as auditory sense of harmony. Just as various speeds of vibration on the piano reinforce and enrich one-another, producing chords and harmony, so the corresponding light speeds produce chords of colour that harmonize pleasingly.

Milton, if you recall, talks more about the harmonies of the universe than any other poet of which I have so far learned. He was unusually "harmony conscious", mentioning at times the rhythm of dancing—Remember L'Allegro? — that calls to light-hearted souls who fall into the rhythm of music or regular recurrence concordent vibration— and like it.

Students, what are you making of the Direct and Inverse Ratio reactions of all natural phenomena —as they bear upon Electricity and Mechanics?

I am, Sir, etc.,
BOOKWORM

The Poet's Corner

REST

O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes;
Seal her sweet eyes weary of watching, Earth;
Lie close around her; leave no room for mirth
With its harsh laughter, nor for sound of sighs.
She hath no questions, she hath no replies,
Hushed in and curtained with a blessed dearth
Of all that irked her from the hour of birth;
With stillness that is almost Paradise.
Darkness more clear than noonday holdeth her,
Silence more musical than any song;
Even her very heart has ceased to stir:
Until the morning of Eternity
Her rest shall not begin nor end, but be;
And when she wakes she will not think it long.

—Christina Rossetti.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

DESPATCH OF BUSINESS

"The question of allowing counsel to prisoners charged with criminal offenses, which has so long occupied the attention of legislators and philosophers in other countries, and upon the expediency of which the greatest statesmen of the age have differed in opinion—a question which has been frequently and earnestly discussed, session after session in the British Parliament, and notwithstanding the talent and the eloquence which have been lavished upon the discussion, still remains undecided—this important question, we say, was settled in our House of Assembly on Friday evening, by granting the affirmative of the proposition, after a discussion which lasted exactly four minutes and a half, by a stop watch."
—Royal Gazette, March 3, 1835.

The Age Old Story

For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

NAMED FOR PRODUCER

The snow apple, a famed Canadian variety, was developed by C. H. Snow, federal agriculturist who died in 1931.

Notes By The Way

A farm publication is offering a $500 prize for the best design for a hen house, and this should cover some of the minor fixtures anyway.—Hamilton Spectator.

May be a coincidence, but some of the narrow Christmas ties are about the same shape as the shoe-polishing cloths.—Hamilton Spectator.

—Weather freaks as noted by The Ottawa Journal: "Newspaper photographs this week showed St. Catharines digging itself out of the snow-drifts—St. Catharines, in the Niagara peach country—while Ottawa basked in mild temperatures." There have been two snowfalls here during November and with probably more snow than fell all last Winter. It would be the height of futility and frivolity, too, to try and tell whats' coming between now and even after Easter. —St. Catharines Standard.

One cannot but love the man for his gaiety, his wit, his vision and his courage. It is not presumptuous to write thus of Sir Winston Churchill for, though few are admitted into his "intimate circle", we are invited to watch his mind at work and to share with him the extraordinary variety and richness of his experience. There has never been a prime minister like him. He is a mixture of Palmerston and Peel shot through with the vivacity of Lloyd George. Mr. Herbert Morrison said of him on Wednesday: "Mentally the Rt. Hon. Gentlemen is a coalition in himself."—London Spectator.

Any one who thinks it is smart to get intoxicated should be asked to attend four consecutive sessions of Midland or Penetang Court . . . or court anywhere else in this province. Back of most accidents, assaults, thefts, broken homes and broken bodies is alcohol over-indulgence. It isn't funny this drunkenness. It is costing us a lot of money and a lot of lives. Police costs are skyrocketing. Jails are jammed. Mental hospitals are overtaxed. And you and I, the average Mr. and Mrs. Citizen who don't get drunk, are paying the bills for this provincial spree.—Midland Free Press.

Humans are zealous in their attempts to swim channels, to climb mountains, break speed records and reach outer space. Birds and animals rarely do things which are not motivated by instinct and the basic rules of survival. A bird flies across a river simply to get to the other side. If nature gives them a speed of flight superior to their fellows, they leave it at that. We have no knowledge of one species of birds or animals competing with others for the distinction of being faster or stronger. They use their strength and speed to catch their prey or to fly above a storm, and they have a determined nature to adjust themselves to their faculties and to live in the habitat they like.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Is that big fellow who beats his chest, prances around on his toes, and on no provocation at all flexes his muscles for onlookers, really a fraud. A New York psychiatrist identifies that poseur as the "he-man," and terms him a hoax. By this judgement the "he-man" is not a fellow who instinctively defies all obstacles, but a mama's boy trying to forget his past. The last word, obviously, has not been spoken on this subject. Even the psychiatrist's defence of his finding needs quite a bit of clarification. "He-man's superiority, he explained, "is built on a conviction of inner negation of passivity." Can't you imagine Primo Carnera or Rocky Marciano stumbling over those words and asking: "Who, me?"—Windsor Daily Star.

When people speak from the heart they usually use simple but expressive language. That Russian woman who explained in Moscow why she had divorced an English diplomat, from whom she had been separated for eight years after he was withdrawn from his mission in Russia, offers an example. She sad she was "tired of being a little piece of the cold war." To her the cold war was not just of world-wide magnitude, involving nations, their governments, policies and defences. It was something which shattered her personal life, depriving her of a husband. She was a helpless victim of the cold war, having been unable to go with her husband when he was recalled to the United Kingdom. Her only guilt was that she had married a man she loved. When thinking of the "cold war" it is well always to remember the lives—and often the loves—of millions are directly affected by it.—Windsor Daily Star.

One of the advantages of being an island province, lies in the fact that, since visitors have time on their hands during their inward and outward journeys, they are often quite willing to spend those periods in answering questionnaires. Some 7,600 visitors to Prince Edward Island did so during the summer of 1952. As a result those in charge of the tourist industry of the Island now understand better than ever how visitors to the province feel about the amenities to be found there—or which are needed there. They learned, for instance, that more than half the visitors were making their first trip to Prince Edward Island; that it was the natural beauty of the province which had attracted them for the most part, and that loafing and swimming were the recreations which the majority most enjoyed. —Halifax Chronicle Herald.

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