

THE GUARDIAN

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The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 1952

Premier Jones At Toronto

Premier Jones has been honoured by the invitation extended to him to address the Empire Club at Toronto today. His prepared address appears in this morning's issue, and it will be noted that it deals frankly with our provincial problems, and with the manner in which Confederation guarantees have been sidetracked down through the years.

Premier Jones does not mince matters in his address, nor does he overdraw the picture of our disadvantages under Confederation. He hews to the line so far as politics are concerned, letting the chips fall where they may.

Inquiry Suggested

A commission which could survey Canada's reserve army problem from both the military and civilian viewpoints is suggested by the Ottawa Citizen. Such a body, the Citizen says, might include representatives of army headquarters, the reserve army, and the civilian community.

Weaknesses in the reserve army have again been drawn to the attention of the Federal cabinet by the Canadian Legion, which for several years has shown deep concern over this problem. The problem is to retain the interest of the large number of men (estimated at 50,000) who are on the nominal rolls of the reserve units but who, in the main, fail to show up for parades.

Soil Conservation Problem

Since the formation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the whole literate world has become much better informed about the relationship which exists between soil wastage and food supply, between soil and water management and economic well-being, and between food and world peace.

Of special interest to Canada in this connection was a recent meeting of Provincial Ministers of Agriculture with the Federal Minister, to request that the principles underlying the work initiated under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act, be applied across the Dominion.

to the diversion and use of the waters of rivers and streams for agricultural purposes, than to the protection of cities and towns from the danger of flooding.

"The ministers," says 'The Country Guide', "might well have gone much further in their representations. They could well have urged that in any national or provincial program involving soil and water conservation and development, the responsibility for administration should rest in Departments of Agriculture, both provincial and federal. We already have too many examples of divided responsibility within provincial governments, which have led to inefficiency and lack of progress.

Fear is expressed by the farm paper above quoted that the costly errors of the past may be carried over into any new national, or joint federal-provincial policy that may be devised for the future. "This must not be," it argues. "Ministers and senior civil servants in departments other than agriculture, can find many worthwhile ways of serving the Canadian people without encroaching on fields primarily agricultural, where they cannot work effectively.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Her Majesty the Queen, then Princess Elizabeth, was married this date 1947.

It's an ill wind that blows no good and the gales which lashed this Province have at least stripped the trees so that raking the leaves can be a rather more satisfying task than when it was just a matter of keeping up with the rate of fall.

New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island now have a branch of the Canadian Public Health Association. The work of this organization can be valuable in helping to keep our standards of public health in line with the rest of the country and also in giving the benefit of experience here to the other Provinces.

All too few scientists realize their limitations as well as the famous Albert Einstein who has turned down the chance to become President of Israel. All too many experts in a particular field are ready to sound off on subjects of which they know little. Their high reputation then lends weight to opinions which may otherwise be without merit.

John Rushworth Jellicoe, first Earl, British admiral, died this date 1935. He entered the Royal Navy in 1872 and served in the Egyptian war of 1882; China 1898-1901, commanding the Naval Brigade; was in command of the Grand Fleet during the First World War; First Sea Lord in 1916; Chief of Naval Staff in 1917; and Admiral of the Fleet in 1919. He served as Governor General of New Zealand from 1920-1924. Some of his publications were: "The Grand Fleet, 1914-1916: Its Creation, Development and Work", and "The Crisis of the Naval War."

The International Federation of Agricultural Producers reports that on the basis of United Nations cost of living statistics, the cost of living in Australia has gone up more sharply than in any other country since 1948. Using the 1948 figure as 100, the following are the index figures for a number of countries as of March, 1952, in each case: Australia, 162; France, 148; Mexico, 141; Norway, 130; Sweden, 128; New Zealand, 126; Britain, 123; Canada, 122; Denmark, 122; Netherlands, 120; Ireland, 115; Italy, 113; United States, 109; Switzerland, 105; India, 103.

Predicament



The Poets Corner

YOUNG AND OLD

When all the world is young, lad, And all the trees are green; And every goose a swan, lad, And every lass a queen;

And every dog his day, When all the world is old, lad, And all the trees are brown; And all the sport is stale, lad, And all the wheels run down;

—Charles Kingsley

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

BONUSES TO INDUSTRY

"Among the acts passed by the Legislature this session, was one to encourage new industries in Charlottetown. The bill 'allowed the City Council to grant bonuses to proprietors of any new industry, and to exempt real estate belonging to such, from civic taxation. The Legislative Council struck out the words relating to bonuses, and limited the period for which exemptions should be made to five years. As the city has no money, and is not likely to have any, to spare for granting bonuses, the amendment is to use a vulgar but trite observation, like a 'chip in porridge'—certainly no good, but, perhaps, not calculated to do much harm."

The Age-Old Story

For this is the message that ye hear from the beginning, that we should love one another... My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

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Notes By The Way

Misuse of Quebec's roads has on for so long that citizens may have wondered, after the government's announcement that the problem was being given consideration, whether anything really effective would be done to correct the situation. The beginning of driving tests in Montreal is tangible proof that improvement is on the way.

Modern four-lane highways are designed for maximum safety. The experience of traffic safety experts and the skill and ingenuity of engineers go into the construction of these highways to give motorists the safest operating "plan" that can be provided in the light of present day knowledge. Yet it has been demonstrated that the provision of these factors does not eliminate, perhaps does not even reduce, accidents in ratio to volume of traffic. Too often motorists are encouraged by superb driving conditions to drive at dangerous speeds, and resultant accidents are made more deadly by the factor which caused them to happen.

Efficient use of space and time is a mid-twentieth century fetish. Roads are becoming straighter, cars more "power packed" than ever, and living quarters are designed to be nothing if not functional. The nerves of humanity twitch at the pace of modern life. In the midst of all this "progress" comes the voice of reaction on the subject of a humble but symbolic item of every-day use. Freda Diamond, New York industrial designer, takes issue with the shrinking bathtub. Miss Diamond points out that present-day thinking in tub circles shows a lack of respect for the romantic and time-honoured ceremony of bathing which requires both space and time for its full enjoyment.

There are still rural schools where sanitary facilities are wholly inadequate, or even non-existent. No section of this country is so poor that decent sanitation could not be provided for the youngsters

at their schools, certainly improve conditions are a menace to the physical health of the children, and, under certain circumstances, could also affect mental health. Another matter to be considered is protection against fire. In the basements of some schools can be found a shocking conglomeration of rubbish. If such rubbish is allowed to accumulate near furnaces or stoves, the threat of fire becomes an immediate danger. Part of the responsibility rests on the parents of children attending schools where such dangers exist.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

We knew that Britain contains many ancient castles and churches but you could have knocked us over with a feather when we heard that she also has a public house which began dispensing drinks in 912 A. D. All we can say is that it must be a pretty sturdy pub to have withstood all the songs, the inevitable brawls, and the countless dart games of the 1,040 years of its existence. This pub, by the way, is situated in Enfield, Middlesex. Originally called the White Hart, it was renamed the King and Tinker when King James stopped for a quick one while hunting and clinked glasses with a local tinker. Now that the news has got out, we can imagine that The King and Tinker will have to build an addition in order to handle all the tourists intent upon soaking up culture.—Lethbridge Herald.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer THE ROMANTIC POETS

A writer in an English periodical says that what the world needs in this hour is not better politicians and statesmen but better poets. He adds that it is high time for another Romantic Revival. This may be an exaggerated opinion. Nevertheless, there does appear to be a dearth of first rate poets who might interpret the lights and shadows of the modern world. There are many people who write poetry today, some of it of discerning nature, but it would be difficult to find one of the calibre of Coleridge, Wordsworth, Byron, Shelley, Tennyson, Browning, or Keats, who are, I believe, counted as the leading participants in the so-called Romantic Revival of the late 18th. and early 19th. centuries.

It would of course be a good thing if a poet of the stature of any one of these Romanticists were to descend upon us, but in an age when the emphasis is on the mechanical instead of the cultural, this is probably too much to expect. In suggesting this one does not have either to accept or reject the oft repeated speculation that the poet is necessarily the product of his particular age. However that may be, he is certainly influenced by his environment just as all mortals are.

It may be that when the heavy human family are finally decimated—if such a consummation be possible—some great soul will arise with the genius to look prospectively at the things which trouble us now and interpret them in the language of poetry, for there is something of the historian as well as something of the mystic in every first rate poet.

But, although the world may have to wait in weariness for a rebirth of poetic genius, it is helpful meanwhile to reflect on what the masters of Romanticism did for their day and generation and, indeed, for all succeeding days and generations. In some instances they did nothing more than leave posterity a legacy of "the ideal unobtainable", who will deny that that, too, was profitable for us all?

I think it is generally agreed that Coleridge and Wordsworth were the real leaders in the intellectual revolt which brought about the great upsurge of poetry late in the 18th century. It was a "revolt" in the sense that it experimented with a simple style as against the elaborate and cumbersome artifices which had governed English poetry for some considerable time. As Coleridge himself confided to a friend: "We wondered how the public would endure the sole use of such words as are common in the most ordinary language". Apparently, the public endured it very well.

The essence of this revival in literature, again to quote Coleridge, was that poems should be based chiefly on natural subjects taken from common life but looked through imaginative medium". In a day when the things of nature are largely considered for their technical utility in man's scientific and commercial undertakings, it is refreshing to rediscover in Coleridge and Wordsworth the spiritual and contemplative value of common things.

A lot of hard things have been said about Byron the man but no one will question the assertion that as a poet he deserves to be numbered among the giants. He made a real contribution to the cause of human freedom and it is no deduction to suggest that his literary methods were, in the main, of negative character. Like John the Baptist in another revolutionary era (certainly not in his habits), Byron was essentially a breaker down of tyranny, hypocrisy, and sham. He had no illusions about the new and there is little in his poetry to indicate any special veneration for constructive principles which of course are essential in any social regeneration.

But Byron never pretended to be a reformer. He saw himself as a destroyer and to that mission he

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