

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. 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, MONDAY, MAY 11, 1953

County Festivals Next?

The organizers of the Prince Edward Island Festival of Music may well be proud and happy at the success of their efforts. The eighth annual Festival surpassed all previous ones both in number of entries and the quality of performance in the various classes. The growth of the Music Festival from year to year is a source of pleasure both to participants and the public in general.

The time is obviously coming, however, when something must be done to adjust to the Festival's expansion. County festivals, preceding the Provincial one, provide a probable solution. They would enable all to take part and at the same time make it unnecessary for those interested to choose between the various classes in which they are interested but which are being adjudicated simultaneously in three centres.

It will be a problem, of course, to provide the organization for the local Festivals and to bring in adjudicators, for the entrants would probably be no more satisfied with local adjudicators for County Festivals than for a Provincial one. The difficulty should not be insurmountable. The South Shore Music Festival indicates that additional festivals are a practical proposition and they should be on at least as large a scale as the Provincial Festival of a few years ago.

If any suggestion can be made for improving the syllabus it is, perhaps, that some means be sought to encourage original composition as well as performance. A sub-class in each kind of performance would leave far too many divisions without any entry but it should be possible to have a flexible programme into which the performance of original compositions would fit.

Tremendous Fisheries Future

In his address at the recent annual meeting of the Fisheries Council of Canada the Federal Minister, Hon. James Sinclair, made an arresting statement. Our scientists, he said, have pierced the mysteries of the atom, but still know very little about deep sea fish movements. The first country in the world to really acquire this knowledge will have the resources of the high seas—three-fifths of the world, at its disposal. For this tremendous prize all maritime nations are competing. And it is not Canada or even the United States that is in the lead at present. "Norway and Japan in particular," Mr. Sinclair said, "are far ahead of us in this respect." He believed, however, that Canadian aquatic biologists can and must be trained to the highest scientific pitch. The world's greatest known fishery resources lie just off our Atlantic and Pacific coasts, ready for maximum use by us.

With this objective in view, the Government is altering the Fisheries Research Board Act, giving more attention to the problem of training personnel, to the exploration for species and to new and better ways of catching them, both in small and large ships. In the offing is the prospect of establishing colleges for the training of fishery biologists.

A second problem is the protection of the species adjacent to Canada's coasts, not only in the area of the Grand Banks and the British Columbia waters, but extending right up the narrow Davis Straits between Canada and Greenland. The Government has, in recent years, built up a series of international treaties that now cover all these waters, and that has no counterpart in the world. These treaties operate by having in each instance a Commission, comprising the countries concerned, whose object is to study fish stocks and to recommend the steps to be taken by each country to manage the resource. Allied to these two developments is a third step, the Coastal Fisheries Protection Bill, which has been passed at the present session of Parliament. It aims at protecting our territorial waters.

These three instruments—research, treaties, and protection, are really a single instrument, the Minister explained, built up and modified according to need. He felt that he had the most interesting job in the greatest challenge for accomplishment, one in which the greatest changes will occur in the years ahead." He pictured the Canadian fishing industry as "a giant hardly awakened yet," with resources not yet fully

used, markets largely untapped. He realized that the Department must, of necessity, maintain the closest connection with both the fishermen and the fishing industry, and on this ground appealed for co-operation from both groups.

In former years the Fisheries Department was too often regarded as of minor importance, and the industry suffered as a consequence. It is to be hoped that Mr. Sinclair's words reflect a changed attitude in this respect, and that the opportunities now so clearly seen will be capitalized on to the fullest extent.

Outmoded Bill Designs

The Bank of Canada has been giving some thought to the design of its banknotes. In the new issue announced for next year, the traditional pictures on the back may be replaced by scenes of the Canadian countryside.

The present designs on Canadian money, notes an exchange, are singularly uninspiring. They appear to be a relic of the nineteenth century, with its passion for allegorical figures vaguely derived from Greek and Roman mythology. Thus the dollar bill is ornamented with a portly lady seated on a throne surrounded by sheaves, with a hoe, a rake and a pitchfork—none showing the slightest sign of use—artistically laid on her lap. Presumably she symbolizes agriculture—or a city dweller's idea thereof. On the ten-dollar bill, the god Mercury stands disconsolately beside a ship, a plane and a couple of trains, wondering no doubt where he can raise the fare. The five-dollar bill is the real puzzler. It shows an embarrassingly undressed young man seated on what appears to be the ruins of a power station. What it symbolizes is hard to say—possibly the activities of a few Doukhobors. Beside their absurdity, these designs have nothing specifically Canadian about them. A few well-chosen Canadian scenes would be far more attractive and appropriate.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Overcrowded housing conditions in Charlottetown, as reported at the annual meeting of the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau, call for a determined effort to remedy the situation. It is only one aspect of the problem of municipal planning but by no means the least important.

College students are basking in the recognition of their year's work but will soon be looking for more practical recognition of their capacity to hold a summer job as well. Giving summer employment to students is a particularly appropriate way of assisting in their education.

Irving Berlin, American songwriter, was born this date 1888. His parents migrated from Russia to the United States in 1933. He received only two years of education at school. His songs achieved remarkable popularity, so much so that he became president of an incorporated company for their production, thus from some points of view his songs are a corporate production. Perhaps the most successful of all was his "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

"A correspondent who advocates a distinctive Canadian flag writes that Ontario also should have one, as Nova Scotia has," says the Toronto Telegram, apparently in one of its less lucid moments. "Ontario, however, is not entitled to a distinctive flag nor is any other province of the Dominion except Nova Scotia, which acquired one more than 300 years ago—first British colony to possess a flag. It is derived from the coat of arms granted Nova Scotia in 1625 by Charles I of England. It is described as a silver field with a blue St. Andrew's Cross, in the centre the royal arms of Scotland—red lion on a golden shield."

The blackboard, according to a British Ministry of Education report, is on its way out. It has been found to exert a depressing effect upon the student, and is being replaced by the "chalkboard," which will be tinted in one of nine bright colors and may be made of cork, sandblasted glass, or various other alternatives to wood. "This humane and long-overdue reform has come, for most of us, a little late in the day, but regrets are bootless," says the London Times. "It is not only idle but unmanly to attribute the paucity of our scholastic attainments to the soul-destroying influence of the blackboard. Even if our first acquaintance with the Greek alphabet had been made against a background of pure cork, it is by no means certain that we should today be a Fellow of All Souls. We must not envy the younger generation because they enjoy advantages that were denied to us; we can only hope that they will make the best of them."

Up In The Clouds



The Poet's Corner

HAVE YOU HEARD THE WIND?

Wind, rain and mist And salt sea spray. Young trees clinging bravely, Clinging to the cliffs.

Fields of green. Dark green, light green. Bright green. Farmers ever hopeful. Watching the young growth.

Fishermen off in the mist, A sudden storm— Rain, gales, And salt sea spray.

Fisherfolk huddled on shore. A brave fire burning. But no sound of oars. Only Wind, rain and mist, And salt sea spray.

—Eleanor R. Wheeler, Fernwood, P. E. I. (The above poem appeared last Autumn in the Canadian Poetry Magazine.)

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

HOPE MILLS ANNOUNCEMENT

"William Rennels & Co. respectfully inform the Inhabitants of Prince Edward Island that they have imported a selection of Machinery, sufficiently adequate to take the raw article (Wool) from the Farmer, and return it completely dressed and dyed, equal to any Store Cloth of the same quality. The Carding and Spinning Machines are now in operation; and those individuals who may be pleased to favour them with a trial may depend on immediate dispatch, together with workmanlike performances, samples of which may, at all times, be seen at the Establishment. "For the convenience of Persons situated at a distance, Weavers wanting Reeds and Harnesses may be supplied from 1 1/4 yard to 2 yards wide. Likewise, a quantity of Spring and Fly Shuttles for Sale. "Prices — Carding 3d per lb. Cash, 4d lb. Barter; Spinning, 6d per lb. Cash, or merchantable Great at Cash price. "N.B. — Wanted, at the above Establishment, a Fuller, and two Machine Yarn Spinners." —Royal Gazette, June 24, 1834.

The Age Old Story

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

CURFEW HOUR

WEST WICKHAM, England (OP)—Rev. W. Parker suggested in his parish magazine that England adopt a curfew for young people. He recalled a visit to a small western town in the United States where the curfew sounded at 10 p.m. for those under 16.

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V. S. Pritchett in the New York Times Book Review

LONDON—When he was American consul in Liverpool Nathaniel Hawthorne complained more than once, in his stern New England way, that the English were insufferably consequential. He was quite right: the consequent Englishman has been the bread and butter of the English comic novelists. What he meant was that they had, as individuals, a sense of their position and indeed I read somewhere the other day that in Heaven it will fall to the English to decide what is suitable. Possibly Jane Austen will be in charge.

If there is any justice we shall certainly be put in charge of official processions and I hope I may be pardoned the immodesty of saying, in this Coronation year, that no nation does this kind of thing better than we do. We have retained a sense of style in public displays and although our personal manners are often criticized for being casual, brusque and sometimes downright awful, our manners on the public, ceremonial occasion are immaculate.

And what are ceremonies but the manners and poetry of the state? Consequence ceases to be a comic trait of these moments. You can ring up Gold Stick in Waiting or Black Rod on the telephone, the Heralds may be members of your club, harmless and worried figures of the English race in Wonderland. But, for a day, they have their moment, when office takes on an exquisite symbolism.

We are reminded that office is more than the man, precedes and outlasts him; that history is a brilliant moment of arrival and a long procession of departure. Pure Gilbert and Sullivan turns into fairy tale and what looks like a fairy tale and is, perhaps, the only example of a living fairy tale in the world, becomes grand, sumptuous and moving.

So we are not afraid of the Coronation. If a guardman faints or a horse bolts it will be done as to the manner born. Anyone who has seen a policeman quite relaxed and unmoved, when the Duke of Edinburgh drives so close to his boot tips as to take the shine off, knows that a state of utter confidence exists.

In the past seventeen years we have managed an abdication with propriety, a coronation, a splendid royal wedding—and the sound of the Abbey bells on that occasion will remain in my ears forever—a royal funeral of the most solemn splendour which had the supreme poetical effect of a tragic purgation of all the sorrow of the war. Not even in the Spain of the old regime could funeral grandeur have been surpassed.

And now our job is to have a Coronation unlike any we have

known for more than a hundred years: the crowning of a young girl. It is certain to be the best show in the world for a long time, because the force of tradition behind it is not dead, archaic or picturesque, but living. The crowd will obviously be jubilant, as crowds often are; but they will also be satiated, which crowds of ten are not. The parade ground troops, for example, are not hired actors, palace dummies, or dressed-up savages from some idle garrison. They will be men who have fought in Malaya, Korea and in World War II. They may be dressed up, they may march like machines and stand like tin soldiers, but they are men from crack regiments.

Other countries can rely on the sun for this sort of display. We have to do it better because it may very likely be gray and, possibly, it will be pouring with rain. Even if it is, the London grayness and green is the best of all backgrounds for the gold and scarlet of the ceremony. What we shall see pass by is a paradox: a popular, democratic monarchy in the costume of fairy tale, but a fairy tale with an important political moral.

BUSY BLACKSMITH

RIPLEY, England (OP)—Henry Jelly, 57-year-old blacksmith who serves many farmers and pony clubs in Surrey, has a 1,000-year-old water trough in his establishment. It was originally a font at the historic Newark Abbey.

The superficial area of the earth is estimated at 196,000,000 square miles, of which 141,000,000 are water.

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Notes By The Way

The latest atomic blast in Nevada didn't have the customary cloud or shock wave. Next, we suppose, it will be fitted with a silencer, making it suitable for use in 25-cent murder mysteries.—Winnipeg Tribune.

Delusions of persecution are to be avoided, of course, but when one mail brings a recipe for prunes stuffed with peanuts and another for prune pot roast we can't get over the feeling that some vast international organization is after us.—Winnipeg Tribune.

The average Canadian motorist, according to figures compiled by the automobile manufacturing industry, drives 6,200 miles a year. If he gets by a year without an accident, in these days of congested highways, he is duly thankful. Thought-provoking, then, is the record of bus driver Harry Bell of St. Stephen, who has just been acclaimed as the Maritime Provinces' "Mr. Motorist of 1953" and presented with a certificate of honor by the Maritime Automobile Association. In his 17 years of operating trucks and buses, Mr. Bell has driven 1,600,000 accident-free miles—or approximately as much as the average motorist would travel in 25 years.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

The United Kingdom Bartenders' Guild is sponsoring a Commonwealth contest for an official coronation cocktail which must be "something smooth and original." We have the recipe for a cocktail to beat all cocktails, and we take great pleasure in submitting it for the respectful consideration of the UKB Guild. Get up with the sun on an early-Summer morning while the dew still sparkles on the tracery of a spider's web, and the air carries the freshness of a washed Canadian forest. Take as many paces as are required to reach the banks of a crystal-clear lake or river, preferably wooded with birch or pine trees, and take one deep breath for each year of the Queen's age. When the call of the loon echoes over the water, or the graceful deer turns its head in the direction of the rising sun, dip up a small quantity of water from the lake or river in a vessel suitable to the purpose, and drink slowly.—Sudbury Star.

A man in Alaska took legal action the other day to have his name changed to Santa Claus, but his application was declined. The judge held that name belongs to the world, not to any one person. It was a reasonable decision, as the applicant merely had intended to commercialize the new name. How far he could have gone in his commercialization in indefinite. Possibly he would have tried to collect a royalty for use of the name, just as nobles in the entertainment world endorse products for a consideration. If he could have extended his enterprise that far, it would have been one of the most profitable since the days of the Selden patent. Selden simply patented the idea

or concept, of a horseless carriage without actually inventing one. When American inventors did, it was held that they were infringing on his patent, and would have to pay royalties. It was Henry Ford who finally defied and broke the Selden patent farce. As the Alaskan lives in a community named North Pole, the change in name sought might be acceptable for social or similar reasons. Not for "business and pecuniary benefits," however, Christmas is expensive enough already.—Windsor Star.

Psychiatrists constantly are expanding the empire of human knowledge. Now, after considerable research, one of them has found that some people have such a fine sense of rhythm that they even eat soup rhythmically. It is a pity he did not do more research on the subject, however, because there are tons of qualities to be considered, as well as a solid beat, in the consumption of soup. It may well be that soup is one of the best release mechanisms we have. Who can tell how many people have satisfied their subconscious yearning for music with variations on a soup bowl theme? —Saturday Night.

It's a good time to keep in mind something that everyone in New Brunswick should know well—that this province's own official flower is the blue violet. There are about 15 to 20 different types of violet growing wild in the province, including several blues. While no specific blue violet is designated as the formal emblem, naturalists usually regard the common marsh blue violet, or viola cucullata, as the one intended. New Brunswick's distinctive flower is one which deserves an honored place beside such other regional symbols as Nova Scotia's mayflower, Prince Edward Island's pink lady's slipper and Newfoundland's pitcher plant.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Most of our Spring bulb flowers came originally from the Mediterranean area and most of them are of French or Italian breeding. But the tulip goes far back, to Turkey. It was the Turkish gardeners who first collected tulips and selected and cultivated them to something like their present form of beauty. The Austrian ambassador to Turkey brought the first tulips westward, to Vienna, in the middle of the Sixteenth Century. Cluisus, the Dutch genius with plants, was at the time court gardener to Maximilian II, and when Cluisus later returned to Holland he took with him a collection of tulips. Thus Holland acquired the tulip. We still think of the tulip as a Dutch flower, but we call it by a Turkish name. "Tulip comes from a Turkish word, which means turban." And thus we pay tribute, in a word worth smooth and familiar with long usage, to Turkish gardeners of long ago who knew a beautiful flower when they saw it, even out of the wild hills of spring.—New York Times.

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