

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett Associate Editor, Frank Walker "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1951

P.W.C. Convocation

As noted in a recent news item, His Honour Lieutenant Governor Prowse, when he presents diplomas to the Prince of Wales College students today, will be the twenty-fifth Governor of the Province to have participated in this interesting ceremony, the first to do so being the Hon. Arthus W. Young, who was appointed Royal Visitor to the Central Academy (as it was then called) by King William IV in 1834.

While congratulating the graduates and students on their efforts, a word of commendation is also due to the principal and staff on discharging their very grave responsibilities with such success and efficiency. The demands upon the teaching profession, particularly in the field of higher education, are increasing in scope and complexity, and it becomes more and more difficult to maintain the emphasis on vital matters, while giving due attention to the increasing variety of other subjects of immediate practical concern.

Addressing the graduating class of Carleton College, Ottawa, a few days ago, Mr. Justice Rand, of the Supreme Court of Canada, emphasized that unless the knowledge acquired at college becomes a living part of the individual, shaping his character as well as expediting his progress in a material sense, it cannot be called education. It is essential that it instill in the student a sense of selection and a maturity of mind.

In this connection, it might be suggested that the practice of many colleges and universities of closing their convocation exercises with prayer is well worthy of emulation. The prayer offered by the convocation chaplain at Carleton College this year, quoted in full in the Ottawa papers, contained the following words, on the simplicity and appropriateness of which we need not comment:

"Assist us, O Lord and giver of life, to open this convocation with deep humility, realizing the tremendous challenge of the times in which we live. . . . May the memory of this day ever inspire a more diligent search after truth and a constant application of the principles of sound learning to the problems that may then call for solution so that ignorance, superstition and fear may be banished from the human mind and that wherever our graduates may labour Thy name shall be honoured and feared among men."

"Goodbye To All GATT"

The Torquay conference on international trade has ended after weeks of deliberation and negotiation amid the oratory which usually characterizes such occasions. The Economist of London, in an editorial obituary headed "Goodbye to all GATT", remarks that the trees which are to be planted in memory of the conference might appropriately be weeping willows.

The reason for The Economist's gloomy comment is apparent from the conference record. First, there was failure to complete any new tariff agreements between the United States on the one hand, and the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa on the other. Secondly, there was the formal demise of the international "letter" organization, ITO. Thirdly, there was the British Government's summary refusal to relax the rigid import restrictions which have characterized the trade policies of the British socialists. Thus GATT, which is the abbreviation used to describe the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which was born with such pomp and ceremony at Geneva in 1947 and took its first faltering steps at Anney in 1949, threatens to wither and die.

The lesson of the failure at Torquay is clear. In a world, and the western world outside the Iron Curtain at that, half committed to bulk trading by government, and

half to private trading, the economic principles that govern normal trade processes both domestic and international, become ensnared in a web of politics and red tape through which it is impossible to penetrate. Until western Europe abandons socialist planning and controls in the realm of trade, Canada and the United States must adhere to a momentarily profitable but on a long-term basis, economically unsound trade program of taking in each other's washing.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Our streets are once more adorned by khaki coloured youths, as proud as their daddies in donning the uniform.

This morning is the first Prince of Wales College convocation to be attended by an organized alumni. Saint Dunstan's has shown what a valuable organization it can and undoubtedly will become.

Tyne Valley is to be congratulated on its Stewart Memorial Health Centre opened yesterday. But if general health is as good as that of the community spirit shown, the Centre may lack patients.

Lack of standardization does not seem to have done much harm in one branch of the Canadian Army—the cookhouse, where Canadian, British and American supplies seem thoroughly acceptable whether interchangeable or not.

Prime Minister St. Laurent was prudent in declining to sponsor a declaration of human rights and liberties in the Canadian constitution. It involves many and important considerations and the mere technique of constitutional amendment has not yet been fully worked out after two years of trying.

The success of British West Indian demands for a greater share of sterling area dollars for purchases in this country will mean a good deal to the Maritimes. Some would be taken up for manufactured goods, of course, but much would be spent here for such products as fish and potatoes.

The Ottawa Planning Committee has the support not only of the Government but of the Opposition, as indicated by Mr. Drew when he declared: "London was more to Britons, Paris more to the French than mere cities. They were the embodiment of cherished traditions, loyalties and hopes. So Ottawa should be for Canadians."

The first Bank Holiday Act was passed in England this date 1871. Now bank holidays in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands are: Easter Monday, Whit Monday, first Monday in August and the first week-day after Christmas. Banks are also closed on Good Friday and Christmas day. New Year's day is a bank holiday in Scotland.

When the Prime Minister declared that Mr. Drew's motion regarding an amendment opposing any further Federal interference with the B. N. A., would be taken as a want of confidence motion, it indicated he was fearful that a number of Liberals would break away and support the amendment. As a "want of confidence" motion, any such breakaway would be avoided.

After a holiday it is more or less profitable to recall the reflections of Mr. Harold Nicolson, the distinguished author: "If you take 'leisure' to mean 'time off', or to mean 'having nothing to do', I do not believe that sort of leisure is of any importance at all; in certain conditions it can become a menace. What I mean by leisure is not doing nothing but doing something different. That, to my mind, is of supreme importance."

One of the great movements of the present day is the attempt to re-establish in the homes the old practice of family worship. Once upon a time no day was complete without the inclusion of morning and evening, or morning or evening prayer in which all the family participated. That practice has long in the majority of homes been discontinued, with consequences which are reflected in broken-up homes and delinquent children. The Roman Catholic Church has entered upon a crusade to restore the Rosary to its hitherto accustomed place, and during the past few weeks have organized successfully the different parishes on the Island to bring it about. On Tuesday a monster open air service was held in Summerside, and on Wednesday next a similar demonstration will be held at the Provincial Exhibition Grounds to which all interested—and who isn't?—are invited. It is felt by the promoters that such a return to family worship will hasten the restoration of peace and prevent the horrors of a Third World War.

A Reasonable Request

This is nice but I'd like to see how my boys look by themselves as well.



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.

BENEFITS APPRECIATED

Sir,—Please permit me to call the attention of your readers to the great benefits of the free Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. I feel qualified to write on this subject because on two different occasions I have been the recipient of transfusions—not just one but two of blood—but several—which undoubtedly played a major part in my recovery when I had to undergo serious operations.

Words cannot begin to express my sincere appreciation of this free transfusion service which provided all the blood I needed without any delays or hitches. I realize that this service is made possible particularly by all those who give their blood as well as those who subscribe funds to the Red Cross.

I note that the Red Cross will be having Blood Donor Clinics in this Province next week at Charlottetown, Summerside, the R. C. A. F. Station, Morell and Montague when at least 1,000 donors are needed as the province is now very much in debt for local hospital use. I also understand that the Red Cross is committed to supply all the blood for use of our armed forces overseas and for stockpiling for civilian defence.

May I respectfully urge that all who are in good health and between the ages of 18-65 attend next week's clinics and make it possible for the Red Cross to continue to save lives through this valuable service.

I am, Sir, etc. MRS. CHARLES TOOLE Green Road, Bonshaw.

The Poet's Corner

When the Present has latched its postern behind my tremulous stay, And the May month flaps its glad green leaves like wings, Delicate-filmed as new-spun silk, will the neighbors say, "He was a man who used to notice such things?"

If it be in the dusk, when like an eyelid's soundless blink, The dewfall-hawk comes crossing the shades to alight Upon the wind-warped upland thorn, a gazer may think, "To him this must have been a familiar sight."

If I pass during some nocturnal blackness, mothy and warm, When the hedgehog travels furtively over the lawn, One may say, "He strove that such creatures should come to no harm; But he could do little for them; and now he is gone."

If, when hearing that I have been stilled at last, they stand at the door, Watching the full-starred heavens that winter sees, Will they think in those who will meet my face no more, "He was one who had an eye for such mysteries?"

And will any say when my bell of quittance is heard in the gloom, And a crossing breeze cuts a pause in its outrollings, Till they rise again, as they were a new bell's boom, "He hears it not now, but used to notice such things?"

—Thomas Hardy (1840-1928).

The deepest spot in the oceans is believed to be off Mindanao in the Philippines, where 35,400 feet was recorded.

Wealth Of Ormus

(New York Times) The British still call the country Persia although it is officially Iran. The British cling to the name the Greeks used, while the Iranians have taken care to preserve their ancient heritage, at least in name. In the Constitution of 1905 it is provided that the Crown of Darius shall be vested in the present ruling house. The present controversy over the rich oil deposits of Iran has thus brought the Crown of Darius into sharp conflict with the British Crown. If this seems an anachronism with a gap of about twenty-four centuries it may be because the peoples of the West lack the long memories of the peoples of the East. The issue is one of wealth, for which Iran was famous long before oil was discovered. Milton had placed Salan

High on a throne of royal state, which far Outshone the wealth of Ormus and of Ind, Or where the gorgeous East with richest hand Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold.

Having recently surrendered most of the wealth of "Ind," Britain would naturally like to save at least some of the half-billion dollars she has invested in the wealth of "Ormus."

Darius, of course, knew nothing about oil but he could tell the present heir to his crown a good deal about state finances. He soon put the huge empire he had taken over from Cyrus the Great and his son Cambyses on a paying basis. He divided the empire into twenty satrapies and ordered each one to pay him a fixed revenue; he took particular care to see that each satrapy paid promptly what was due. Naturally he got a bad name. "In the reigns of Cyrus and Cambyses after him," says Herodotus, "there was no fixed tribute, but payment was made in gifts. It is by reason of this fixing of tribute, and other like ordinances, that the Persians call Darius the huckster, Cambyses the master, and Cyrus the father; for Darius made petty profit out of everything, Cambyses was harsh and arrogant, Cyrus was merciful and ever wrought for their well-being."

Cyrus was "pater," father; Cambyses "despotes," master; Darius, "kapelos," a small merchant looking always for profit. But Darius also was an able administrator and a cautious military strategist. The Greeks forced a war upon him which his generals conducted ably. The Athenians won everlasting glory at Marathon but Darius shines in Greek history as a worthy antagonist. And it is Darius, rising as a ghost from the tomb in the drama of Aeschylus, who reads to the Persians the terrible lesson the Greeks saw in the Persian defeat at Salamis. The Greeks had great respect for this Oriental despot whose wealth and power and vast domains were in such sharp contrast with their own limited resources.

The explosive nationalism of Iran is now being encouraged by reminders that the Persians were once the dominant race in all the Middle East. Our times have been much troubled by ideas of "dominant races." Hitler's Germany set the worst example of a whole mythology built on the theory of a "dominant race." Mussolini tried to restore to the map the long-vanished Roman Empire. Bulgarians and Serbs like to recall a Great Bulgaria and a Great Serbia. Poles and Lithuanians point to a historical map of Europe which shows a Poland-Lithuania extending from the Baltic to the Black Sea. These are manifestations of what the English historian Toynbee has called "archaism"—a state of mind which takes possession of old civilizations in periods of disintegration and decay.

We have seen Mussolini's "impero" rise and vanish as completely as the "dominant races," so many vanished empires.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Prince Edward Island Register, March 2, 1880: "R. Parry, late from Bristol, begs to inform the inhabitants of Charlottetown and the Island in general that he has taken the premises occupied by Mr. H. M. Williams, where he intends carrying on Smithing in all its branches, and in particular shoeing horses, and making implements of husbandry. He flatters himself that his superiority in shoeing, with dispatch and moderate charges, will please those who may favour him with their patronage. Horses shod complete, 4s. 6d. Removes, 2s. Flour and produce of any kind taken from country customers at cash prices."

P. MacGowan, secretary of the Central Agricultural Society announces for sale in the Society's store, a supply of seed grain, grass seeds, etc., imported from England.

"The public is advised that during the representation of the last play at the Amateur Theatre, the third volume of the British Minstrel was entrusted to the care of some one behind the scenes, who has neglected giving it back. The Manager therefore requests that this volume, together with the various Books of Plays and Farces lent by him to different persons, may be returned without delay."

"All such persons as have subscribed towards building the Presbyterian Church in Charlottetown are respectfully requested to pay the same into the hands of the Committee, before the 16th day of March, to prevent unpleasant consequences."

Messrs. George Clark and Francis Longworth announce the dissolution of the co-partnership existing between them under the firm name of Clark and Longworth.

"The Catholic population of Charlottetown and its vicinity, being desirous of enlarging their House of Worship, respectfully inform the liberal of the other denominations, that subscriptions in aid thereof will be thankfully received by the Rev. B. D. MacDonald, Mr. Daniel Brennan and Donald McDonald."

"Friends of the Charlottetown Wesleyan Missionary Branch Society are advised that the anniversary meeting will be held in the Wesleyan Chapel on Wednesday evening, the 17th, when a collection will be made in aid of the funds, the chair to be taken by Ewen Cameron, Esq., at 7 o'clock precisely."

By as the "imperium" of the Caesars. Hitler's Third Reich, falling short by 988 years of its projected thousand years, is now one with the First Reich of Otto the Great and Frederick Barbarossa. Moscow, the "Third Rome" of the Czars, shelters its empire behind an Iron Curtain, showing no great confidence in its stability or endurance. There may be somewhere on the outskirts of this empire an old Mongol dreaming in his tent of the great days of Genghis Khan, "Conqueror of the World." So many "dominant races," so many vanished empires.

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Notes By The Way

Canadians are becoming fed up with pedantic lectures on the causes of inflation. They are pretty well grounded on the reasons for inflation. They know that it is getting worse and that the Canadian dollar is shrinking in purchasing power every month. We don't want to know any more about the causes of inflation, or to be told that we are living too high. We want the government, and the opposition, too, to come up with some ideas on how to put the brakes on inflation. Inflation is one of Canada's greatest dangers today. We don't want to hear that inflation is the people's fault, or that the government is watching the situation. We want something done about it before it gets any worse. —Vancouver Province.

Hundreds of scrap-metal thieves hunt Berlin streets these nights, stealing everything from bronze statues to door knobs and trolly wires. Police patrols in both parts of the divided city catch from four to 15 a night, but the thefts never stop — business is too profitable. The Scrap Thieves Guild sprang into existence after the war when thousands of tons of lead pipes, radiators and bath-tubs were "liberated" from the ruins of Germany's shattered cities. When the ruins were exhausted, vital parts of statues of ancient German rulers and monuments in the streets and squares were the targets. Prussian war heroes lost arms, legs and awards. Lions stood without paws and mermaids were deprived of their fish tails. The thieves also take anything else so long as it is of bronze, iron, copper and zinc. In the Soviet sector they removed all door latches from a newly-erected block of apartment houses the night before it was officially opened. In a French-sector restaurant, the lead pipes in the lavatory were dismantled. New ones were put in — and stolen the day after. The sidewalk of a suburban street collapsed. Police investigation showed that metal thieves had dug a tunnel from the cellar of a ruin to dismantle the sewage pipes under the road. —A. P. Cable.

Soon after Charles Goodwin opened a music indexing business on West Fifty-first street in New York a gang known as the Tenth Avenue Toughs began to make life

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