

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, FEB. 5, 1954

World Council Of Churches

The first assembly of the World Council of Churches was at Amsterdam. The second assembly will be at Northwestern University in the State of Illinois during the last two weeks of August. Some 1500 delegates and visitors are expected representing a large number of Christian communities.

There is little prospect of any thoroughgoing union of the many categories of Christians but the achievement of such a meeting as that at Amsterdam and the one to come in the United States shows that there is a strong feeling against the all too apparent disunity of Christendom, if indeed that term can be used today at all.

These meetings have helped to give expression to the need for greater unity without frightening off those who fear that the identity of their own community will be submerged. The common problems of Christians everywhere can be discussed and the delegates can meet on much common ground, more probably than many would have thought possible. The non-Christian and indeed non-religious forces are at least as strong today as ever they were. It may be, however, that the very proximity of danger will enable those who are Christian to overcome many of the barriers which have grown up over the years.

Suggested Economy

The anticipated post office deficit for the current year has brought a constructive suggestion in Parliament from Mrs. Ellen Fairclough, Progressive Conservative member for Hamilton West. Mrs. Fairclough pointed out that a large part of the department's trouble arises from the fact that it is obliged to carry free the mail put out by all the other departments of government. This includes not only legitimate official correspondence but a vast and ever-increasing amount of "public relations" and "information" material. She added: "From personal experience I know that the mail from government departments which comes to the desks of business people in this country is so voluminous that it cannot even be scanned and, most appropriately, finds its way into the waste paper basket. Some of it, Mr. Chairman, is pure junk."

Mrs. Fairclough's suggestion is that the post office should be credited with the amount of postage which would normally accrue to it from the other departments now using its services for nothing. This would not in itself halt the waste of government money involved. But it would show the public and Parliament, much more clearly than at present, which branches of the government are chiefly responsible. As matters stand now, the post office has to bear the burden of extravagance by other departments, and is trying to pass it on to the ordinary users of the mails.

If these other departments had to account for their own mailing costs, moreover, they would be less inclined to reckless spending on so-called "public relations." They might even, adds an exchange, cut down on their paper bombardment of publishing and business offices—a boon well calculated to win the government far more friends than its stream of circulars, pamphlets, compilations, and so forth.

Education In Newfoundland

A news report from St. John's, Newfoundland, says that officials of the Department of Education are studying ways and means of putting the department on a "more comprehensive and organized basis." Newfoundland's entry into Confederation five years ago brought a good many changes in one way and another. One thing it did not change was the educational system which is unique in Canada; so far as we know, there is nothing just like it on the North American Continent. Each religious denomination that is "recognized" by the government—which in practice means any denomination of reasonable numerical strength—is given annual per capita grants to be used for education. These grants are then broken down by the denominational superintendents of education and distributed as equitably as possible to local school boards. From these funds teachers are paid, schools are kept in repair, and equipment

is purchased. In addition the government allocates certain sums of money by way of augmenting teachers' salaries according to academic status. In many small places where there are only a few children of a particular denomination these are permitted to attend the school that happens to be in operation, provided, of course, there is room to accommodate them.

There are some obvious flaws in this kind of a school system. For one thing, it makes for a lot of duplication and expense which under a non-denominational system would be avoided. It is not uncommon in many small communities to find two small school buildings, or even three or four, when a single large one would serve the purpose. Then, because grants are allocated on a per capita basis, many schools can be operated only for a few months in the year; not infrequently adjoining communities must take turns in having their schools open.

Advocates of the system—these are certainly in the majority—argue that it assures each child a certain amount of religious instruction, in accordance with his (or her) parents' wishes, as a part of the regular school curriculum, and is, therefore, worth the extra expense and inconvenience it might impose on the province's economy. Anyway, the system is deeply ingrained into Newfoundland's history and it is worth noting that assurance of its continuance was written into the legal documents which brought Newfoundland into Confederation. Had that not been done it is almost certain that Canadians would not now be referring to Newfoundland as the "10th Province". It can be taken for granted that the "more comprehensive and organized basis" which officials of the Education Department in St. John's are now considering will not include any tampering with the system itself.

EDITORIAL NOTES

These days a man is known by the state of his sidewalk.

The illness of His Holiness Pope Pius XII is a matter of concern to the Christian world, and the latest official announcement as to his improved condition will be received with relief.

The only newspaperman on world tour with Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent is William Stewart of Canadian Press. Head of the Montreal Bureau, Mr. Stewart, before the war, served as correspondent here and will be well remembered by many friends.

Quebec is a great dairy province, and the possibility of a milk shortage there is something unusual. Margarine competition is given as the cause, despite the fact that the sale, manufacture and possession of this product is illegal under a provincial law.

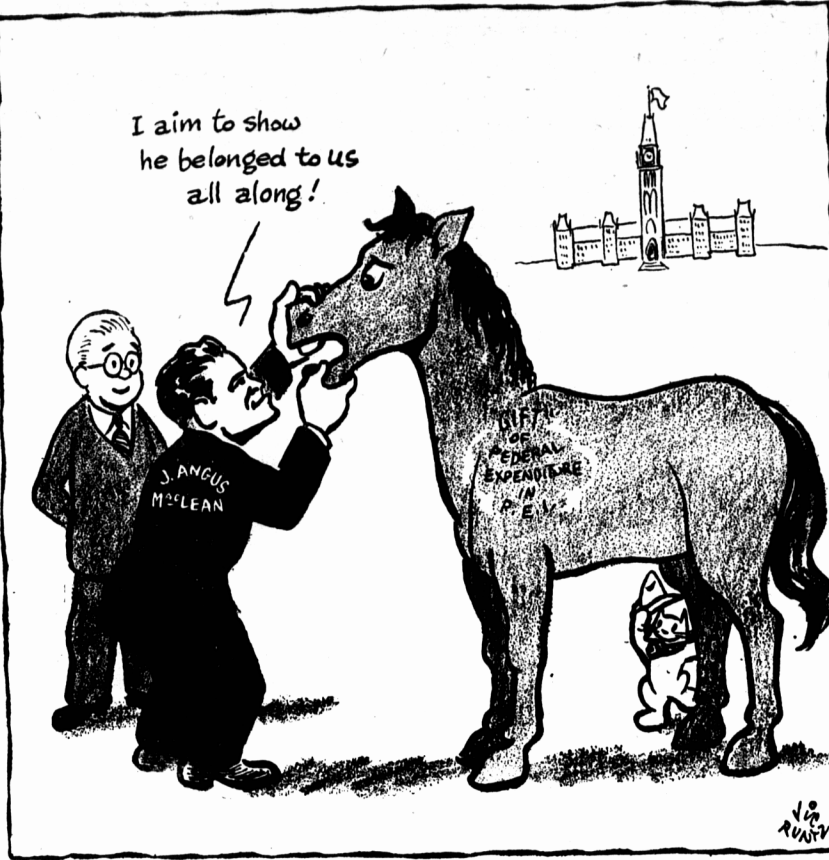
Sir Arthur Keith, Scottish physiologist and anthropologist, was born this date 1866. He published a great many books on comparative anatomy and other subjects. He made a special study of early man and gives a very full discussion of the Taungas skull, found in 1924 near the Vaal River. In 1948 he published "A New Theory of Human Evolution."

Proper housing is a problem here as elsewhere. That citizens are interesting themselves in bettering conditions for the ultimate good of all is encouraging. We can not, nor does one expect spectacular results all at once. It is by the inevitability of graduality through co-operation of citizens and co-ordination of interested bodies that permanent measures are achieved.

It is a healthy sign to have contests for the Mayoralty, four out of five Wards for the office of Councillors, and a goodly number of Commissioners in the Water and Sewage branch. Fortunate is the community that has citizens ready and willing to offer their talents and time to the public weal. It is well also to remember that good administration can only be maintained by alertness on the part of our citizens to their own responsibility for returning the best men available.

The Railways may yet be looking for Maritime coal on a large scale, though it may be some years before the new coal-burning turbine engine is made available for commercial use. A first model of this latest device has been completed successfully by a group of scientists at McGill University. The engine is designed for railway use and the scientists announce that the model is more efficient than the diesel engines now being installed on the railways on this continent. According to the data given, the present steam locomotives, which are outmoded by diesels, utilize 6 per cent of the thermal energy of the coal they use. The McGill engine not only uses a lower grade of coal but utilizes from 20 to 24 per cent of the thermal energy.

Looking It In The Mouth



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.

P. W. C. STANDARDS

Sir,—In recent issues of your paper, I have read letters criticizing the courses and percentage failures at P.W.C. As a student now attending P. W. C., I feel that I could perhaps clear the air on these matters.

As to the courses at P. W. C. being hard, I must admit, having failed a number of class tests and exams in the past, that the work is no cinch. But, I must also admit that if I had put sufficient time and effort on the subjects concerned I would have had no trouble passing. I know when one applies to Universities for admittance from P. W. C., each course is absolutely necessary. So, I would say to all parents, if Junior can't handle all the subjects in one year let him split up his subjects and take one course a year, such as History this year, French next year and so on. True, this will take a lot longer, but what's the difference so long as you can tell the fellows at the office or the lady over the fence, "Junior passed!"

Just after the Second World War, many of our boys returned to Universities and some even to P. W. C. After being away from their studies five years they passed their courses without too much trouble and no complaints about being overworked, for they knew what work was.

Some students, the minority I am glad to say, don't know how to study, and they did, I am not sure they would. They would rather flop on a stool in some restaurant and sip 'iced water and molasses' through a straw, that is until the day before exams and then they find that it is much too late.

I have found the teachers at P. W. C. to be A-1; they do not hesitate to help a fellow over the rough spots when asked. But don't parent, they can't study for Junior; it is he who must do for himself. If the percentage of failures at the P. W. C. is high, then it is only right that parents become concerned. But, don't blame the College and its teachers for the fault is not theirs. I would advise parents to take Junior to one side and tell him to stop running to every five-cent dog fight in the neighborhood and to settle down to some good honest concentrated studying.

The course leading to a degree in medicine is now nine years in length after entering P.W.C. The Universities are advocating an additional year "pre-med." which if it comes, will make the course ten years. And, if parents don't stop raising a fuss over Junior's falling at P.W.C. the Department of Education is liable to add a few more years in order that Junior can pass. So as a student with a long hard road ahead, I ask parents to please leave well enough alone or I'll be going to college forever.

I am, Sir, etc. A HUMBLE STUDENT

AMBLING FILING-CABINETS

Sir,—The above heading is an apt epithet culled from the press some time ago. It appeared in the current discussion on educational methods, and dignified by such a background it is a metaphor not likely to be forgotten. You may say, "But how can a filing-cabinet mean a 'slow pace in walking'?" However you soon arrive at the conclusion that it must be a human head in which classified data are stored. Moreover, since ghosts are not everyday ambulators, this head must in some way be connected with two lithe legs—must belong to a living person.

I do not think the possession of such a head is per se an evil, al-

The Age Old Story

The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

though like many things it may serve evil ends. For instance, it is said that Malenkov has a card-index head; his biggest servant in carrying out his wicked purposes. In contrast if we turn to the praiseworthy character in Goldsmith's Deserted Village we get real enjoyment in seeing how round the gazing rustics ranged around. And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew, That one small head could carry all he knew."

Sydney Smith, the British writer, in a delightful Memor of Lady Holland describes Lord Macaulay as a "book in breeches," a saying which amused Queen Victoria. It was an apt epithet, too, from the time Macaulay the boy in his first breeches was presented with his first reader, it is said that he remembered everything he saw, heard, or read.

Indeed, you can improve your memory in such a way that it is no burden to you. Yes, you can have in your head millions of ideas, personal traits, anecdotes, etc., for ready reference. You become aware of them only when you become aware of the person, place, thing or subject to whom or which they are attributed. One's head is however more than a place to store, say, Abraham Lincoln's wit and wisdom or in a lighter vein to record the recent theft at a French hotel of the fabulous jewels of the wife of A-ra Khan. If you are building an ideal world, dwell carefully and select from the best sources only that befitting the creative conception. In other words our free will is confronted with a hierarchy of values that morally governs our lives.

I make no claim to professional opinion. However dark the sky may be, silver-dag'd clouds will follow. The Good, the True, and the Beautiful shall prevail. What I am trying to impart, comes from insight, rigid self-examination, and the experience of a comparatively long life.

I am, Sir, etc. MINOR SAXON

OUR NORTHERMBERLAND SWIMMER

Sir,—The biggest public furor in recent years is evident among the people of the B. C. coast—caused by the announcement in B.C. papers that Florence Chadwick, world famous swimmer is to make an attempt to swim the Strait of Juan De Fuca, 18 1/2 miles, between Victoria and Port Angeles in the State of Washington. She is to get \$7500.00 for the attempt. She has calculated \$2500 if she is successful. The principal big dailies on the coast are going overboard for the success of the performance. The staid old Victoria Times, co-sponsor, devoted two pages with photos and facts about Miss Chadwick. Rotund Bureau Manager George Warren gushed happily, "This is the biggest thing that has ever happened to Victoria."

Major Claude Harrison flourished his best smile and personally escorted Miss Chadwick to her hotel. Miss Chadwick had just surveyed the course in a tug boat taking water temperatures, consultations with local seamen, etc. The temperature was 43 to 46 degrees, which seems pretty cold. Cold water is her nemesis. She calculates on doing a mile in 30 or 31 minutes. She is to go in training at once, eating her way up from 138 to 152 lbs. A proponder of steaks is her main diet. The report doesn't mention the kind of steaks, but presumably she will want variety and use moose and buffalo and even bear steak. Coach Archie MacKinnon suggests for Miss Chadwick, a fur-lined bathing suit. That ought to triumph over the cold water—if it wouldn't be too much in the other extreme, and cause so much pers-

Old Charlottetown

PROTEST FROM BELFAST

"The Belfast District has commissioned Major C. D. Rankin and Mr. D. Graham, delegates, to attend a general indignation meeting at Charlottetown, and a series of resolutions has been unanimously passed and ordered to be submitted by these gentlemen to the convention.

"They have also strictly enjoined them to propose a petition to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Sir John Harvey, on his arrival, praying for the immediate dissolution of the House of Assembly, as the most prudent preliminary for obtaining a legitimate recognition of their rights and privileges, allaying the general excitement in the country, which they attribute, chiefly to an unwarrantable impolitic disparagement of public opinion, and a mercenary malversation by a majority of the present House of Assembly, whom they consider to be proleptics and purveyors to procure unwarrantable privileges to the proprietors, and who are therefore unfit and unworthy to legislate for the people, whose essential interests they would sacrifice at the shrine of power for which they prowl.

"Several complaints prevail, and serious charges have been preferred to the Executive from this section of Queen's County, against certain Commissioners under the Small Debt Act. Frivolous and vexatious prosecutions are too prevalent; and the pettifogging tricks, partialities and prejudices imputed to some Judges of our subordinate Courts, should be exposed and exposed. With this view a petition to His Honor the President in Council is in progress for immediate presentation."

—Royal Gazette, June 28, 1836.

piration that the subject would lose energy.

The Vancouver Province and Vancouver Sun ran special articles on the proposed Chadwick attempt. Their idea is to force the eyes of at least the English-speaking world on the glamour of the Pacific coast of B.C. Human nature has about the same characteristics all the world over. It seems reasonable to conclude that a special swimming event next summer across the Northumberland Strait would attract world-wide attention.

If the services of a world-famous swimmer are procured (to establish a record), it might be advisable to put on an "amateur" competition on the same day. There are many swimming clubs in the Maritimes, and there must be many good swimmers. The Red Cross classes would surely develop some distance swimmers—Miss Henry demonstrated that it is feasible. It will be incumbent in our boys and girls to begin building up their muscles right away by calisthenic exercises in their rooms conducive to development of swimming muscles.

We want to draw world-wide attention to our salubrious climate and variable summer Zephyrus. The Victoria promoters mention \$100,000 share in T.V. concession; if we could get 1/10 of that amount it would be O.K. It is up to the newspapers, companies, M. C. A., the "brains and plutocrats of their native province to carry out the project. It seems to be a "natural". Expecting to elaborate further (D.V.). I am, Sir, etc. JAMES PENDERGAST. Kensington, P. E. I.

Notes By The Way

In these days of inflation a bargain is something that doesn't still go on, and though it is its worth.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

Bishop Kenneth Turney, Roman Catholic bishop, has returned to Montreal from China where he has been since 1948 and he sees Red rule as "terror, fear and constant despair." As he has found it only the younger children are devout Communists, for they are fed Communist doctrine from the time they wake up until they are asleep again. That means conversion by ignorance.—Niagara Falls Review.

Then there's the case of Ian Scudgers, of the editorial staff of Maclean's magazine. Back in 1942 working on the Toronto Star, Scudgers went home one evening forgetting to leave his cigarette lighter on his desk. On the lighter were his initials and a dent. Next morning the lighter had vanished. The other day, walking down Yonge street, he looked in the window of a secondhand jewelry store. And there was his lighter. He went in and bought it for \$1.95.—Toronto Financial Post.

The public has noted of late that attention is being more directed to telling it about atomic fission for peaceful, progressive and constructive purposes with a corresponding lessening of emphasis on its warlike and destructive use. The information released helps to reduce the mystery and from that should follow a lightening of the vague terror of the atom. Not that we can afford to brush aside the more distressing side of splitting the atom until we are assured of effective means to prevent a potential enemy employing it as a weapon; nevertheless we may be more assured as the other side of atomic energy is developed and the people generally begin to understand it.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Today's melancholy mating songs are a symptom of the age of disenchantment, of the hectic pursuit of a romantic will-o'-the-wisp that is perpetually dancing out of today into a land-that-never-could-be. They are not the songs of effervescent youth, or even of victorious maturity; rather they are the songs of the disappointed and the disillusioned—a wailing lament for romantic moments that can never return; a cry of despair because some one else has stolen his girl (or boy); a catalogue of feminine charms sung with dreary monotony; or the expression of a hope that the ideal one may be met, although the minstrel suffers from an inferiority complex and cannot believe such a thing could happen.—Hamilton Spectator.

All this land was once covered by ice, and as it melted and

frontline moved northward habitations began. That evolution is still going on, and though it is perhaps too slow a manifestation for human eyes to see, man has instruments which determine for him the change which is taking place in climate and temperatures. From this knowledge, based as it largely is on weather trends and old bones dug up in sand pits, we can help evolution along its way. It is possible that a precise evaluation of what this country will be like, geologically, in a thousand years may lead us to exploit lands never before thought capable of agriculture, of providing food for a world badly in need of it.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Even if life without adversity were possible, it would be empty. "Adversity," said Byron, "is the first path to truth." Maturity is largely the capacity to quietly absorb disappointment. Bad times, Emerson emphasized, are occasions "a good learner would not miss." The hills and the valleys must be a part of life's road; there is no calm without storm, no real rest without hardship, no enjoyment without self-denial.—From editorial for young people, Hamilton Spectator.

The Poet's Corner

FROM DON JUAN

O Hesperus! thou bringest all good things Home to the weary, to the hungry cheer. To the young bird the parent's brooding wings, The welcome stall to the o'er-labored steer: What'er of peace about our hearthstone clings, What'er our household gods protect of dear, Are gathered round us by thy look of rest; Thou bring'st the child, too, to the mother's breast. Soft hour! which wakes the wish and melts the heart Of those who sail the seas, on the first day When they from their sweet friends are torn apart; Or fills with love the pilgrim on his way As the far bell of vespers makes him start, Seeming to weep the dying day's decay; Is this a fancy which our reason scorns? Ah! surely nothing dies but something mourns. —Lord Byron (1788-1824)

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for J. A. McGuigan (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), MacPhee & Trainor (Barristers, etc.), Dr. W. R. Carson (Chiropractor, etc.), Gordon E. MacMillan (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), Frederic A. Large, Q.C. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), Palmer & Haslam (Barrister, etc.), Matheson, Peake & Nicholson (Barristers, etc.), J. S. Taylor, R.O. (Optometrist), Dr. A. L. MacIsaac (Dentist), Dr. K. A. MacEachern (Dentist), M. Alban Farmer, Q.C. (Barrister and Solicitor), Byron J. Grant, O.D. (Optometrist), Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.), J. A. Carruthers, R.O. (Optometrist), McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants), H. R. Doane & Company (Chartered Accountants).