

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, JUNE 17, 1952

Fishermen's Disaster Fund

The recently organized Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association has come forward with an excellent proposal for underwriting the security of our second most important industry. It is generally recognized that our fishermen's lot is a hazardous and precarious one.

Both the Federal and Provincial Governments have sought to grapple with this problem. The establishment of the Fishermen's Loan Board was for the purpose of meeting emergency cases of this kind, as well as to aid generally in promoting the interests of those engaged in the industry.

At a time when Governments are being pressed more and more for paternal hand-outs at the expense of the taxpayers, the attitude of our Fishermen's Association is particularly to be commended.

The BNA Act

The original of the British North America Act, notes the Ottawa Journal, rests in the custody of an official known as Clerk of the Parliaments in a tower of the Parliament Buildings in London.

This old Imperial act, that is the actual document, has been made a subject of some importance by Mr. Knowles of the CCF and Mr. Diefenbaker, Progressive Conservative.

"There is no doubt," says the Journal, "about the ability of Canada to change her constitution in this field, but there are differences in the minds of Mr. Knowles and Mr. Diefenbaker the question of how the Parliament of Canada, with all its power, can revise the act of another parliament."

"Two authorities on parliamentary law. Mr. E. A. Driedger of the Justice Department and Dr. P. M. Ollivier of the Commons law branch, upheld the position that such changes as were necessary could be made by the Canadian Parliament and that other Imperial legislation has in fact been revised or superseded by Canadian governments.

"Both Mr. Knowles and Mr. Diefenbaker, who have made considerable study of parliamentary practice, wondered if the original BNA Act should be brought to the Canadian Parliament when a change in it was made under Canada's new powers. It is, of course, still a living authority because the constitutional changes affecting the provinces still have to pass through the United Kingdom Parliament, although that is no more than a formality.

country to which it has meant so much there is no suggestion that Canada feels there is any doubt about her control of her own affairs. But for the sake of history, and perhaps firm court decisions in years to come, it would be well to have Parliament review the situation and decide whether the old BNA Act document shall rest forever in the United Kingdom archives and be supplanted or watered down without a hand being laid upon it."

EDITORIAL NOTES

There will be Canada-wide sympathy for Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defense, and Mrs. Claxton, in the tragic loss of their son David in the drowning accident recorded yesterday.

Bon voyage to P.O. D. W. Gallant of R.C.S.C.C. "Kent" who is one of the two Maritime Sea Cadets who will sail on H.M.C.S. "Quebec" for Sweden to attend a camp there.

The "Squid", a new and powerful anti-submarine weapon now carried by most British destroyers and frigates, but till recently on the Secret List, is a many-barrelled mortar firing underwater bomb capable of cracking the toughest submarine hull yet made.

Charlottetown and the Province, which she saw change from a colony, pay tribute to a fine old lady, Miss Alexandra Scott. Long retired from her career of teaching, she continued to serve her community in many ways.

The Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., has a magnificent record for service to the nation and in particular for its fighting men past and present. To keep up that work it needs the active membership of all our veterans.

The House of Commons defeated the Press Gallery in a baseball game some time ago. It seems that the advantage of the newsmen in recording their prowess was offset by the arithmetic of Finance Minister Abbott in keeping score.

The balance of Sterling payments is again, or rather still, a critical problem. Increased shipments to this continent provides the only solution. The problem is simple but the answer seems almost impossible.

Origin of a stone model of the parish church puzzled the people of Northleach, Glos., England, until a visitor from Ontario, Mr. C. A. Fuller, revealed that the model was executed by his father-in-law's brother while recuperating from an illness 75 years ago and presented to Northleach church authorities.

"We intend to place ourselves firmly in the forefront of the world's experts on anti-submarine operations", declares Vice-Admiral E. R. Mainguy, Chief of Naval Staff. Canada has come a long way from its stature before the First World War and the R.C.N. even further from being a "tin-pot navy."

John Wesley, founder of Methodism, was born this date 1703. At Oxford his younger brother had formed a small group who strictly observed the ordinances of the church and were dubbed "Methodists." John Wesley became their leader. It was not until 1784 that he executed the "deed of declaration" founding the Methodist Church as distinct from the Church of England.

Photographs of Provincial Jersey champions will be sent to the Toronto headquarters of the Canadian Jersey Cattle Club to permit the selection of national winners. The success of this experiment will be watched with interest. The procedure would certainly simplify competition although at the same time it would detract considerably from the public interest in such events.

The most reassuring word to come out of Korea for a long time is Lord Alexander's prediction that any major Communist land offensive would be stopped within a week with heavy losses to the Chinese. The British Defense Minister, after a characteristically thorough front-line inspection, expressed his surprise that it was as strong as he found it to be.

A Scottish correspondent notes a growing tendency for the clans or those who share a clan name to get together in what may be called Family Gatherings. Last autumn the Frasers were notably entertained by Lord Lovat at Beaulieu. The McLeods have just been rallying in Skye and the Robertsons in mid-Perthshire. Overseas visitors are always welcome at these hospitable occasions in the old land.

Crow Season



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.

TOBAGO AND THE MORAVIANS

Sir.—Tobago is an egg-shaped island of the British West Indies, about one sixth the size of our Queen's County, lying fifty miles north east of Trinidad and under the same government.

The people have many and strange superstitions. They have a queen of the Jumbies, a large, fleshy woman, usually, who yields a powerful influence over the colored people. Besides the queen there are a number who are said to be able to work "ob" upon people, creating paralyzing fear.

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The Poet's Corner

IN EARLY SPRING I wander in a grey time that en-closes June and the wild hedge-roses.

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exult his name together.

The Age-Old Story

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exult his name together.

He Could Be Useful

Lord Alexander, visiting Tokyo and Korea as British Defense Minister, says that Britain has full confidence in General Mark Clark.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer MR. BURNETT'S PASSING

When a great man passes from the earthly scene his death touches the community in which he served his fellow-men. And I believe that the late editor of The Guardian will, by common consent, be adjudged great.

It is probably correct to say that the editor of a daily newspaper, especially in a small town, holds a position of responsibility and influence that is unsurpassed and perhaps unequalled by that of any other public or semi-public official.

The ethics of journalism are as strict and exacting as any in the whole field of human endeavour. In the hands of Mr. Burnett they were safe and inviolable. Those who worked under his direction must consider themselves very fortunate indeed.

It is given to few men to pass the four-score mark with their reasoning faculties unimpaired. The late editor was one of the few. Only a few months ago I chatted with him in his office.

Another landmark is being removed from the scene. Hazard's Corner, on Fownall Street, is being razed to the ground. Historic in its associations, it has stood the ravages of time well, and passed through scenes of varied fortune.

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