

Fish Exports

The Newfoundland Association of Fish Exporters, which controls the sale of salt cod to the West Indies area, has come under attack from Trade Minister Isaac of Jamaica. He calls it a dictatorial cartel doing great disservice to the fishermen of Newfoundland and has asked the Federal Government to "smash" it. Pending a change in the association's methods—or its dissolution—Jamaica will buy the bulk of its fish requirements from Iceland where the price is lower.

Commenting on Mr. Isaac's words of censure, officials of the association said that without some such centralized agency for the disposal of fish, the price to the fishermen would be much less than it is. This may be true, although it is interesting to note that the N.A.F.E. has many critics in Newfoundland, among the fishermen and their union officials, as well as in the West Indies. In fact, the fishermen themselves seem to be of the opinion that the association's chief concern is the price paid to the exporters rather than the price received by the producers.

In any case, as far as fish sales to Jamaica and other West Indies points are concerned, it doesn't matter much whether the association is helpful to the industry as a whole or not. The fact is that it has lost the confidence of fish importers in the West Indies. That, no doubt, is why the Federal Government is said to be considering measures to change the business methods of the exporters or to abolish the association and try some other way of marketing salt cod.

For centuries Jamaica has been Newfoundland's best customer in the fish business. If anything can be done to prevent the loss of this market, it should be done as soon as possible, with or without the co-operation of the N.A.F.E. There is more to it than exports of fish from Newfoundland. The whole pattern of Canada-West Indies trade is involved.

Important Ruling

A judgement which will have a bearing on one phase of this country's relations with the United States was recently handed down by the Supreme Court of Canada. Its substance is that no local government has the right to tax United States firms working in Canada on defence projects.

The decision was rendered on appeal by two contracting firms, Fraser Brace and Drake-Merritt, which had been assessed municipal and county taxes in the City and County of Saint John, New Brunswick, when they erected several buildings and brought in machinery and radio equipment in connection with the construction of the Distant Early Warning Line in Canada, a joint Canada-United States project.

The appeal was based on the ground that the property, both real and personal, belonged to the United States Government and, consequently was entitled to the same immunity from taxation as is enjoyed by diplomatic missions. This argument was accepted by the Court which held that the undertaking "was dictated by the international situation and implied an invitation to personnel and property of the United States Government to enter the territory of this country for the execution of the common purpose."

Flowers in May

Showers, contrary to poetic notion, don't bring flowers in May or any other month. Nature has a strict schedule that brings a succession of blossoms to fields and gardens from early spring through late fall. Spiraea, violets, asters, and chrysanthemums, for instance, all bloom when it is time for them to bloom—and not before. While rainfall, soil and temperature control the growth and maturing of such plants, they have little to do with the actual flowering. It's mainly the length of the days and nights that counts.

Many plants that follow nature's timetable refuse to crack their buds until they get rather exact doses of uninterrupted light and darkness, the National Geographic Society says. A mature cocklebur flowers promptly in

autumn when nights lengthen to 14 hours. This sensitivity to the rhythm of light and darkness is called photoperiodism. Certain plants are critically affected by it, though in different ways. Some require the long nights of spring or fall to bring out their blossoms; others, the short nights and long days of midsummer. There are neutral plants, like the tomato, that seem indifferent to the relative length of days and nights. Under proper circumstances, the tomato will bloom and bear fruit anywhere from the tropics to the Arctic.

The phenomenon of photoperiodism has been known for several decades. Since then scientists have learned that darkness itself is the critical factor, especially for late-blooming plants. In effect the plant gets its vitality by day, does its work at night. Flowering of some mature plants can be delayed for months by shining artificial light on them for just a few minutes each night. That is how nurserymen fool chrysanthemums into holding up their great golden blossoms until, say, a special holiday weekend.

Scientists are exploring the mechanics of photoperiodism from different angles. Tackling the initial step in the process, physiologists are studying a pigment that absorbs red and far-red light. In darkness this pigment undergoes a mysterious change. When nights grow long enough, a sufficient amount of the altered pigment builds up to trigger the plant's complex blooming apparatus.

Check Prevents Accidents

The Canadian Highway Safety Conference has intensified its efforts aimed at cutting down the heavy traffic toll in life and property. This month has been set aside for a nationwide campaign to check on unsafe vehicles. Indeed, it is a triple check, for the slogan reads: "Check your car, check your driving, check accidents."

The conference, through provincial and community safety organizations, is stressing 10 vital safety checks: brakes, front lights, rear lights, steering, tires, exhaust system, glass, windshield wipers, rear-view mirrors and horn. Defects in any of these items, warns W. Arch. Bryce, general manager of the Conference, can result in a disaster. Their importance to the operation of a vehicle is seldom appreciated until they become defective. Steps taken now can prevent these defects from occurring.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Opposition criticism of the high rate of interest charged on housing loans is, we believe, justified. A situation where a borrower over the normal 25 year period pays interest of more than \$900 on each \$1000 loan can scarcely be considered fair.

"Those who condemn mankind for being so wickedly aggressive might remember that no representative body of citizens anywhere has ever demanded that atomic and hydrogen bombs should be manufactured and used. They are here not because we are wolves but because we are more like hypnotized sheep. Our grandfathers would have destroyed any government that behaved so monstrously."—J.B. Priestly in his recently published "Thoughts in the Wilderness."

Mr. Harold Winch of the CCF wants Canada to make clear to the United States that she will "control her own destiny." It's a fine rhetorical phrase but hardly one to be taken seriously. No country, however, powerful, is complete master of its destiny these days; and the smaller powers, of which Canada is one, are particularly dependent on strong friends and allies. Perhaps Mr. Winch meant that Canada should not submit to American "control," which is quite a different matter and a proposition easily defended.

In addressing the graduating class of Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland, Dr. E.W.R. Steacie, President of the National Research Council, said: "The demand for more scientific manpower is leading to the concept of the university as a factory, the value of which can be measured in terms of units of output. I find the whole concept suggests the function of a university is to mould people to suit the demands of the labour market; and it substitutes the concept of training for that of education." This is a timely warning. Nothing worse could befall Western civilization than for the function of a university to be regarded as purely utilitarian, just in order to keep up with the Russians in the production of satellites and the like.

THE PORCUPINE—A HARMLESS ANIMAL UNLESS ATTACKED—HAS BECOME NATO'S UNOFFICIAL SYMBOL

REPORT FROM COPENHAGEN



THE LION AND THE LAMB—NEW VERSION

OTTAWA REPORT

An Open-Book Era

By Patrick Nicholson  
Special Correspondent for The Guardian

Ottawa: For many years while Mr. John Diefenbaker was a private Opposition Member of Parliament, he fought an unremitting battle to resist "The Passing of Parliament."

To many Canadians, that struggle to preserve the rights of Parliament appeared to be an academic and perhaps unnecessary struggle, as he repeated his protests against the arrogant attitude of the Liberal Government backed by its steam-roller majority. That attitude became widely known here, as expressed tersely, brutally but eloquently in those famous words spoken by Right Hon. C. D. Howe: "Who's to stop us?"

Through the years, Ottawa heard Mr. Diefenbaker protest against government by the Cabinet through Order-in-Council, instead of the correct democratic method of government by Parliament through the vote of the M.P.s. He protested against the withholding of information from Parliament; against the muzzling of Parliamentary committees; and finally, together with all other opposition M.P.s, against the shutting off of Parliamentary debate through closure.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of public affairs of general interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

FROM ENTRY ISLAND

Sir,—I understand that you published an interview some time ago, urging the need of a nurse for Entry Island. Now, please, could you do something for "that nurse."

I think you were a little misinformed re "all the modern conveniences." I need a housekeeper and would prefer a middle-aged woman, who did not smoke, and would come more for the satisfaction or pleasure of keeping a comfortable home with good meals, for a lonely nurse, than for what she was paid for her efforts.

I am, Sir, etc.,  
AGNES M. TIBBS, R. N.  
Canadian Red Cross Nursing Station, Entry Island, Magdalen Islands, Quebec.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Sir,—It is true that much is being said about education at the present time in Prince Edward Island. I am of the opinion that many present day parents will have to be educated themselves, and, to a certain extent home-educate their children (in manners) before any teacher can properly carry out his or her laborious task of teaching in the classroom.

I have quite often heard of teachers getting assistance from trustees, but when trustees start to condemn their teachers (some even think they know more than supervisors) I think it's time a teacher was through moulding minds. Some parents, I think, are very childish. This is quite true when many children trot home from school, telling their parents incredible stories—something like fish stories. Many parents enjoy these fish stories, especially if little Johnnie is telling them. Johnnie never tells a lie; he has always been a good boy at home; he never talked back to Daddy—therefore he should always be perfectly all right in class. Oh! no, my dear parents, be very careful of making this assumption. Perhaps you have forgotten your own childhood.

I would suggest that parents leave the teachers alone in regard to punishing their children in class. I am of the firm opinion that no teacher will punish a child unless he or she deserves it.  
I am, Sir, etc.,  
AN ISLANDER

DEMOCRACY AT WORK

"Parliament is the guardian of our freedom and of our free institutions," he declared passionately in those long-ago days. Stressing the important function which the Opposition to the Government must perform, and must be permitted to perform, in our Parliament, he went on to give a definition which deserves its place in Parliamentary textbooks:

"If Parliament is to be preserved as a living institution, the Opposition must fearlessly perform its functions. It upholds and maintains the rights of minorities. It must be vigilant against oppression and unjust invasions by the Cabinet of the rights of the people. It should supervise all expenditures and prevent over-expenditure by exposing to the light of public opinion wasteful expenditures—or worse. It must scrutinize every action by the Government."

That was said when the Liberal steam-roller was crushing Parliament. Today the boot is on the other foot; the Conservative majority is so large that in comparison that Liberal steam-roller looks like a pastrycook's rolling-pin. Does Prime Minister Diefenbaker ask defiantly: "Who is to stop us?"

On the contrary, at the first possible opportunity after he obtained a working majority, the Prime Minister made abundantly clear his intention to restore the rights of Parliament. The Opposition will be enabled and encouraged to examine and discuss every action by the Government; and as a final built-in auditor of Government activities, an Opposition M.P. will be invited to serve as chairman of the parliamentary committee on Public Accounts.

OPEN BOOK ERA

This new Conservative regime will be no possibility for skeletons to rattle in dark closets in a Parliament where every official should be, like Caesar's wife,

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files)  
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO  
(May 22, 1933)

Professor G. D. Steele, Vice-Principal of Prince of Wales College, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at the convocation of Mount Allison University tomorrow afternoon. Professor Steele came to Prince of Wales in 1909 as instructor in English and since 1911 has acted as vice-principal.

That Prince Edward Island by reason of recent concessions obtained in connection with the car ferry operation between Tormentine and Borden, has entered a new era of transportation improvement, was the opinion of Justice A. E. Arsenault, who recently returned from Montreal. Justice Arsenault referred not only to the change in the accounting of the car ferry but also to the recent changes in ferry rates for automobiles.

TEN YEARS AGO

(May 22, 1948)

Organization work has been completed and application for incorporation applied for in the case of a new company which has been formed to operate a new radio station in Summerside. The Company will be known as the Gulf Broadcasting Co. Ltd. and will operate the station under the call letters CJRW.

Serious consideration is being given by the Summerside Town Council to installing parking meters on Water Street, it was learned yesterday. The parking problem on Water Street, Mayor J. F. Arnett said, has been a serious one for a number of years. It is thought that parking meters might help to provide some solution to the difficulty.

Teething May Present Problem

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.  
WHILE teething presents no great problems to a normal, healthy baby, it can be very dangerous for a victim of hemophilia.

Hemophilia is a condition, often inherited, which prevents blood from clotting properly. Thus, even a tiny wound might cause profuse and uncontrollable bleeding.

**HOW TO CONTROL**  
Erupting baby teeth, naturally, can cause the gums to bleed. This bleeding can be controlled by applying pressure at the site of the eruption and then smearing the area with vaseline.

Even after the teeth have erupted, they require considerable attention.

Dr. Joseph G. Mondo, a member of the Medical Advisory Council of the Midwest Chapter, National Hemophilia Foundation, advises that parents of hemophilic children should brush the youngsters' teeth after each meal until the children are old enough to perform the tasks themselves.

**TELL THE DENTIST**  
Dr. Mondo, a dentist, cautions parents to be sure to tell their dentist if their child is a hemophilic the first time he visits the dentist's office.

A hemophilic must take very good care of his teeth. I suggest that children with this condition visit their dentist at least every three months for a check-up. In some cases, Dr. Mondo advises, a monthly visit might be in order.

A child with hemophilia should never be permitted to pull at his teeth. In fact, Dr. Mondo says, you should permit his baby teeth to drop out by themselves.

When this occurs, application of Methocel to the area probably is advisable. **PREVENTION OF BLEEDING**  
When it becomes necessary to extract a permanent tooth, or if a baby tooth should become abscessed and must be pulled, follow your dentist's advice. There are various techniques which can be employed to prevent much bleeding.

Some of these require an extended period of treatment, but usually are very successful. In an emergency, when a tooth must be extracted immediately, it probably is best to have it done in a hospital. Then the tooth can be removed surgically and a blood transfusion can be given the youngster. The transfusion should be continued until the bleeding stops.

**QUESTION AND ANSWER**  
M. H.: My daughter's palms sweat excessively. It seems no other part of her body does so to such an extent.

What causes this, and is there anything that can be done about it?

Answer: The reason for localized sweating is not always clear. It often occurs in other

NOTES BY THE WAY

Those of us who can tear our eyes away for long enough from the monster in the corner of the living room should spare a thought for the sad plight of the people of New Zealand. There's no television down there. Nor is there likely to be for some years. —Winnipeg Free Press.

**Representative.** Brooks Hays, who has the reputation of being the capitol's top story teller, insists this is the way public speakers were trained when he was young. "The instructor emulated Demosthenes, who practiced his speeches with pebbles in his mouth. At the beginning of the course, each student was given a mouthful of marbles. Every day the instructor reduced the number by one marble. The student became a public speaker when he had lost all his marbles." —Washington Post

The Poet's Corner

THE CHERRY TREE

One year a cherry flowered below my room.  
I watched its blossoming from day to day  
Until the flowers had covered every spray.  
Until my heart was aching to assume  
Possession of its poignancy of bloom.  
It's beauty-made desire I found no way  
By poem or song or looking to allay,  
Nor yet by tearing from the bough its plume.

Then came the time when flower gave way to leaf  
And day by day I watched the green progress,  
Eating slowly through each petal-ed sheaf  
And day by day I felt my pain grow less  
Until at last I knew more joy than grief  
To see the cherry's final shabbiness.  
—Patricia Duff McGinley in the New York Times.

The Age Old Story

Whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

wise normal individuals. It may follow emotional stress. The use of a weak ammonium chloride solution on the palms is some times of help.

British farmers are now producing about 100,000,000 bushels of wheat a year, as compared with only 61,000,000 in the years before the last war. Other countries are making somewhat similar agricultural progress. This reminds us that Canada enjoys no monopoly in the wheat field in fact, never did.—Brantford Expositor

It has become a custom to say that one should never rebuke a bureaucrat for the reason that he is doing merely what he's told. The fallacy in this theory is that usually it is a bureaucrat who constructs the bureaucrat. If this polite and gentle custom were valid, the millions of Allied soldiers and sailors and airmen who set out to defeat Hitler should not have shot any other German because he, the German (poor fellow) was merely doing what he was told.—The Printed Word

Last Fall a hunter came in to Port Arthur with a bear he had killed. The bear had been shot previously and by the healed condition of the wounds, it must have been quite some time ago. The bullet had entered one side of its body and passed out the other. It had not injured any vital spots. The bear had applied first aid to itself to stop the blood flow by coating each wound with spruce gum. The wounds had healed perfectly.—Bush News

Whatever else the spinnings have done they have produced an ending crop of funny stories inside Russia. There is the obvious one that the second satellite was, of course, sent up by the security services to keep a watch on what the first was up to. There is the other story that crowds in Albania suddenly began demonstrating for joy. They had heard the rumor that Russia was to "let loose a satellite in outer space" and had jumped to the conclusion that their own distant Albania was to be freed.—The Times, London

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