

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1951

Asking For Trouble

The troubles which the United States Government is having over its new meat control regulations are cited in The Country Guide as an example of the friction and confusion that are bound to arise from the application of selective controls.

The price controller in that country has ruled that meat prices must be rolled back ten per cent by October. Immediately he found himself in a hornet's nest. The packers' lobby, which is extremely powerful at Washington, attacked him at top levels. Wholesalers resorted to a variety of dodges to defeat the purpose of the regulations. Cattleman's organizations, unable to see why they should be selected for restraint while other prosperous groups went scot free, have threatened a delivery strike as in 1946, and nation-wide black markets.

The whole sequence of events gives point to the representation made at Ottawa on price control by H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. Because the Federation recognizes the unfairness of partial controls, and also because it recognizes the unwisdom of a price freeze as of a given date, with no regard to price movements up to that time, Dr. Hannam's statement is worth reprinting in full.

"It may be that in the near future the government will institute general price control. If so, such control should be made effective on all prices, wages and profits. To exempt the returns of any one group would be to grant a privilege which cannot be justified; and secondly, great care should be taken to see that controls are applied equitably. There should be no freezing of all prices as of one date because it would be unfair to some commodity producers. When a four-week period was used as a base in 1941 agriculture was frozen in an inferior position. Calculated on a 1926-29 base, the ratio of farm and non-farm returns stood at 68, far below a balanced position. The same calculation would work out for 1950 at 98, two points below a balance with non-farm workers. In fact, seven months ago we requested the Federal Government to set up at once a competent body to undertake a continuous study of the position of the various groups and to make recommendations as to a fair base upon which to impose controls, if and when such are needed."

Summer Training

Times have changed for college students. Once the great majority of them could look forward to a well-earned holiday resuming contacts with their family and friends and then taking summer jobs to provide practical experience to supplement their academic studies and cash to help pay for their education.

Today's younger generation faces sterner realities. Throughout their college year, or indeed their ordinary occupation, they gave up evenings and holidays to part-time military training and now, instead of returning to familiar surroundings, they are on the move to take part in the summer exercises of their units.

Much is said and written, as it always has been, about how much easier it is to be young today than at some earlier period, the precise time varying according to the age of the teller. The fact is that not since the days when youths were squires of knights and carried and cared for their arms and armour, at the same time undergoing rigorous martial training, has a younger generation prepared itself more determinedly for service.

Drastic Action By Congress

In the flurry of the Senate investigation into the dismissal of General Douglas MacArthur, notes an exchange, two acts of the United States Congress, both of them of great importance, have received only slight attention. The first was the inclusion by Senate and House conferees of a clause in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act that virtually abrogated trade agreements between the United States and Russia and its satellites. The second was the attachment of the Kem amendment to a seemingly innocuous supplementary appropriations bill.

Since the amended bill has been passed, economic or financial aid from the United States henceforth will be denied to any country that exports to Russia or its satel-

lites not only arms and military material but commodities which might by a stretch of imagination be considered to have military significance. Moreover, aid will be denied to any nation that exports a commodity upon which an American embargo has been placed. If the National Security Council makes any exceptions to these general rules, it must report its reasons to the appropriations, armed services and foreign relations committees of the two houses.

The repercussions of the amendment, predicts the Ottawa Citizen, will be widespread. Those nations which are Marshall Plan beneficiaries are presented with two unattractive alternatives: either they must virtually cease to do business with Russia and its satellites or they must limp along without American aid. Whichever alternative they accept, their economic health, which the Marshall Plan's operation was designed to restore, will suffer. Moreover, dependence of the Communist countries on Russia will be increased. Since direct diplomacy between the Western nations and those behind the Iron Curtain is no longer widely practised, the severing of business relations will make complete the isolation of Russia's satellites from the rest of the world. Only Russia will benefit from such a situation. According to Canada's secretary of state for external affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, the severing of all trade ties with Communist China is one of the "avoidable" steps that might bring on a general war between China and the free world.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is a poor pun but sound economics that making proper use of the starch factories should go far in putting starch in the potato market.

Islanders have been putting up with a lot of rain, particularly on week-ends and holidays, but if fine weather and the tourists arrive together there will be little to complain about.

Red China's ignoring of opportunities to end the fighting in Korea do not make U.N. proposals valueless. They at least show that U. N. aims are a proper peace rather than conquest of any kind.

The tourist booths are now staffed but it might be worth while in future to hold out the filling of vacancies as summer jobs for students who show a particularly keen interest in Island history and geography.

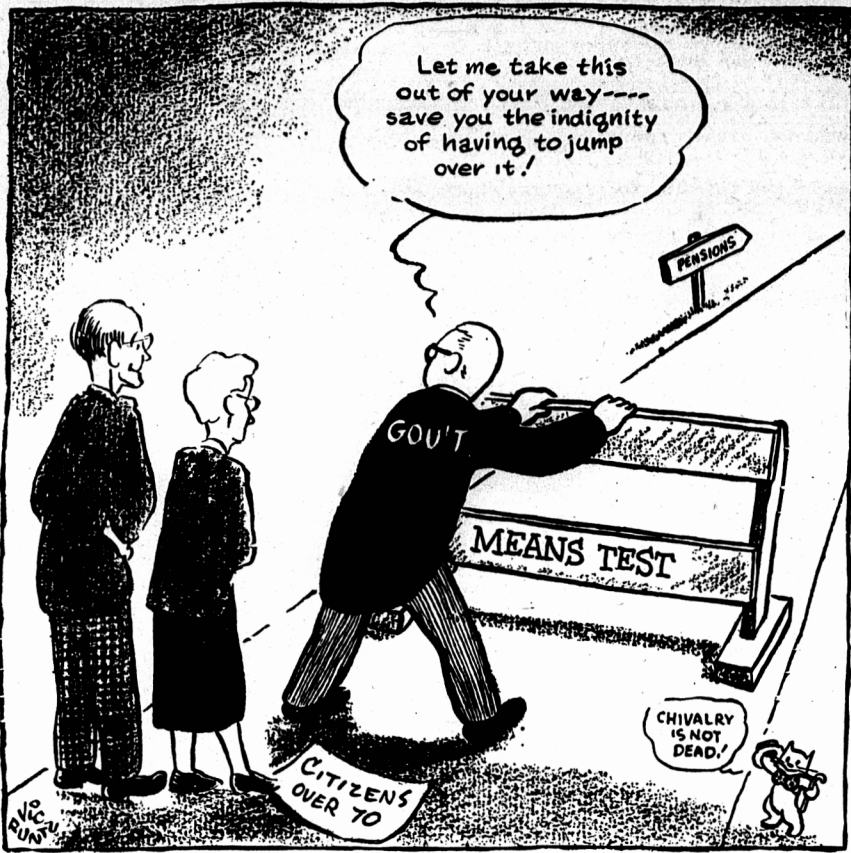
According to "Newsy Notes" in this paper some of the nine weeds classed as "primary noxious", because of their ability to retain viability indefinitely, may actually not do so more than fifteen years. That is probably enough, however, to break the heart of the average gardener.

So far as Parliament is concerned this is the busiest season for members of the House of Commons, examining estimates of different departments, Agriculture, Public Works, Transport, etc. One, two or three estimates, which are minor ones, have so far come before the committee, but the bulk have yet to be examined.

The Confederate cruiser "Alabama" was sunk off Cherbourg this date 1864. Before her destruction she had captured one steamer and sixty-seven sailing vessels and paralyzed American shipping. £3,229,166 damages were awarded against Great Britain as a neutral for failing to use due diligence to prevent her sailing from Birkenhead where she had been built.

It is good for a Provincial Opposition Leader to be on the side of the Federal Government. Mr. Walter Thomson, Toronto lawyer and Ontario Liberal leader, far outstripped any other lawyer in fees received from the Veterans Department during the last four years, a Government return shows. He got \$232,135. The return was tabled for John Diefenbaker (P.C.-Lake Centre) who had asked for the names of all lawyers receiving more than \$5,000 since Jan. 1, 1947. Mr. Thomson, Liberal member of Parliament for Ontario riding, was far out front. The second man was P. F. Renault of Montreal who got fees totalling \$45,336 and the third was T. Pidgeon of Gaspé, Que., with \$12,277. Others on the list included G. W. Bowman, Windsor, Ont., \$9,430; J. R. Ebbs, Ottawa, \$5,888; J. E. Friel, Moncton, \$5,731; J. K. Hunter, Goderich, Ont., \$6,031; H. F. Lazier, Hamilton, \$6,847; J. D. McCallum, London, \$5,983; J. A. McGuigan, Charlottetown, \$10,752; G. R. McReady, Ottawa, \$5,333; R. Mercier, Ottawa, \$9,463; G. C. Mersereau, Bathurst, N. B., \$5,539; J. D. Orlando, Bridgetown, N. S., \$6,557; J. H. Schofield, Kitchener, Ont., \$8,653; Telford and Marron, Owen Sound, Ont., \$5,197. The return said the fees covered disbursements for abstracts of titles, tax certificates, registration of title documents, sheriffs certificates, office maintenance and travelling expenses.

To Remove The Hurdle



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.

LEVEL CROSSING TRAGEDIES

Sir.—How many people will be killed on level railway crossings before word is voiced in public or any action taken to prevent such terrible loss of life? Is Prince Edward Island too poor to afford construction on main highways of either subway or elevated railway crossings, such as are found on all main highways in the other Provinces of Canada? If such action would be responsible for saving one life, surely the cost would be justified.

I am, Sir, etc. MOTORIST. Charlottetown.

OLD ENVELOPES

Sir.—An English friend of mine has a hobby of collecting old envelopes from 1880 up until 1915 with Railway Postoffice Cancellations from the different divisions of the Island, such as Tignish-Charlottetown RPO, Charlottetown-Souris, Charlottetown-Georgetown, Charlottetown-Murray Harbour. Boat cancellations would be satisfactory.

If anyone has any to spare, it would be greatly appreciated if they would contact Cyril Kidd, 9 Beech Park Ave. Northenden, Manchester, Eng., or myself. I am, Sir, etc. KEITH PRATT Bloomfield Station.

FARMING AND FERTILIZER

Sir.—The judicious use of chemical fertilizer, in connection with general growth of farm crops, is commanding greater attention throughout Canada and elsewhere now, than at any previous time in the history of farming. There are two reasons for this: Its value as an essential to maximum production and its apparent excessive cost. Considerable attention has been devoted to both phases during agricultural discussions in the House of Commons at Ottawa at the present session, with even the Minister of Agriculture generously participating at times.

Chemical research and experiment by competent authority in different countries and, perhaps more intensively so in various locations in the United States than elsewhere, has been and now is being carried on most diligently, and their findings, after most exacting experimentation, are intensely interesting and informative. At the moment it would appear as if methods of applying fertilizers are about to be revolutionized, that crude and laborious practices employed today and for years back, must be replaced by some system more modern, more not to be disappointing. Occasional or bulk feeding, as opportunity makes convenient, will not produce best results. Such lessons we have learned even from every day experience.

Heretofore it has been generally recognized that plant nourishment has been supplied mainly through the roots in the ground and that is where the fertilizer must needs be applied. Of course

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

SCHOOLMASTERS EXAMINED

The Island's first Board of Education was appointed in 1850, and on July 29 of that year, the first quarterly meeting for the examination of schoolmasters was held at the residence of Dr. De St. Croix in Charlottetown. The following persons, fourteen in number, presented themselves, and having duly undergone an examination as to their attainments in the various branches of education required by the Act, were found qualified, and admitted as teachers:

Grammar School: John MacNeill, not stationed. District Schools: Reuben Fales, not stationed; Thomas Irwin, Charlottetown; John Arbuckle, East Point; Charles McArthur, Lot 43; Thomas Brown, South Shore; John McInnis, Elliot River; Malcolm Darrach, Elliot River; Neil Arbuckle, Belle Creek; Walter Phelan, Bay of Fortune; Samuel MacLeod, Belfast; Sebastian Davidson, Cavendish; Robert Robertson, Three Rivers; John Shaw, Three Rivers. On the following day, Mr. Alexander Brown, master of the Charlottetown Grammar School, was examined at a special meeting of the Board, and having given satisfactory proofs of his classical acquirements, received a certificate of qualification for his office.

We knew that a certain amount of "pepping up" was being provided by atmospheric conditions. Research and experiment advise us today that in many cases an even greater percentage of plant nourishing will be carried on over ground than under ground, that foliage feeding is speedier and more immediately effective than it can be through the root process, consequently not so wasteful. If atmospheric conditions are not conducive to growth, by periods, and the crops appear "hungry", suitable chemicals can very easily be applied in spray form to the plant or crop and progress in growth will continue, where otherwise it would be retarded or even stunted.

Farmers who may be inclined to experiment with new methods of fertilizing, will naturally expect compensation in one way or another for their effort in response to suggestion, usually in the form of increased yield and or lower cost. Both such benefits are possible, indeed very probable, as experiences indicate. But there is an additional benefit within the scope — a better quality product. In one experiment reported, it was stated that upon analysis the usual nine per cent protein content had increased to 16 per cent through foliage fertilizing. If this is so, and there is no special reason for doubting this part of the "finding", then it

the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans at Norfolk will be the last one. There are now only a score of veterans of the Civil War left — seven survivors of the Union Army and 13 who once wore the gray of the Confederacy. They are fragile centenarians all. Bugles blow no more for them, but before marching days were over the Grand Army of the Republic and Lee's followers had walked together. — New York Times.

The Poet's Corner

WAYFARING

Across the harbor's tangled yards We watch the flaring sunset fall; Then the forever questing stars File down along the vanished trail

To no discovered country, where They will forgo when the hand Of the strong Fates shall take away Their burdens and unloose their bands.

Westward and lone the hill-road gray Mounts to the skyline sheer and wan, Where many a weary dream puts forth To strike the trail where they are gone.

The sleepless guide to that out-land Is the great Mother of us all, Whose molded dust and dew we are With the blown flowers by the wall.

Girt with the twilight she is grave. The strong companion, wise and free; She leads beyond the dales of time, The caridom of the calling sea—

Beyond these dull green miles of dike, And gleaming breakers on the bar— To the white kingdom of her lord, The nameless Word, whose breath we are.

—Bliss Carman.

would appear as if grain growing, subjected to this method of treatment, would yield a "balanced ration" feed in itself and eliminate the purchasing of expensive concentrates or at least materially reduce the required quantity. From impressions gained through a limited study of this question of improved methods of fertilizing, it would almost seem as if farmers were at the threshold of a "break" in respect to the use of this great essential to more successful farm production. I am, Sir, etc. J. A. GILLIES

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Notes By The Way

A new wind tunnel is being built at Toronto. There's nothing like keeping near the source of supply. —London Free Press.

Talk turns again to the possibility of germ warfare, a theme on which we are far from clear. Does a cannon cough in the face of the foe? —The Winnipeg Tribune.

This is the season of graduation ceremonies, and we have noticed that, in this connection, a new word is creeping into the language. The new word is "graduand." A graduand it appears, is a student who has passed his examinations but has not yet received his degree. — Calgary Herald.

"Home construction slowed down," says a headline. One would not notice it here in North Bay. There seems to be more house-building going on than ever before, despite certain shortages and highest-ever prices. Homes being built now cost anywhere from \$2,000 to \$3,000 more than they did in 1946, yet they are springing up in all sections of the city. —North Bay Nugget.

For some reason's a countryman can't be sure about, wild strawberries are not nearly as plentiful as when he picked and ate them in mid-June of a green long ago. Perhaps a closer and earlier cutting of meadows has partially destroyed plants which used to be thick in farm fields and along dusty roads now turned into hard highways whose edges, too, are mowed and tended. Perhaps there are more birds and fewer farmers. But certainly a heaping saucer is not often found on farm supper tables. —New York Herald Tribune.

How many people know that Lindy's real name is Charles Lindbergh, or that Babe Ruth was christened George Herman? Few know that General Eisenhower's christian names are Dwight David, because they know him as Ike. And then, of course, there are Winnie, FDR, Uncle Joe, the Red Witch of Buchenwald, Monty, Clem, Nye, the Jolter the Brown Bomber, GBS, the Rocket, Big Red, Mac (a recent addition), Schnozzola, Leo the

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