

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8, 1951

Water Safety Courses

Pleasure and profit are seldom more aptly combined than in the Red Cross swimming and water safety courses which are provided annually at this time, free of charge, with competent instructors and under conditions which in this Province might well be described as ideal.

A Montreal exchange complains that while a great many people enjoy outdoor bathing, only one in ten can swim. The proportion may be higher in this Province, but there is no reason why it should not be very much higher.

Once acquired, this is an art which is never forgotten, and it may pay big dividends in self-preservation or in the saving of others' lives in the years to come.

Defective Cars

As a result of a survey made in the United States, a Toronto advertising agency estimates that 1,000,000 Canadian cars require brake repair work, although without a special check neither motorists nor garage mechanics are aware of the need.

What is true of brakes, suggests the Lawa Citizen, might be said of other parts of automobiles now on the road. Headlights are often defective, the steering gear may be in dangerous condition, and other parts may be worn to the point of failure.

The Population Problem

World population just keeps going up. During the last fifty years, writes Mr. Maurice Goldsmith, Unesco Science Editor, it has increased by no less than 826 millions.

Table with 6 columns: Africa, America, Asia, Europe, Oceania, Total. Rows show population for years 1650, 1750, 1800, 1850, 1900, 1949.

The greatest growth has been during the last 50 years, when — according to W.H.O. official, Dr. S. Swaroop, in a study in the last issue of the Epidemiological and Vital Statistics Report — "the world has added more persons than actually were living in 1900 in the whole world excluding Asia, and the rate for the twentieth century shows world population to be increasing as never before."

The table above shows that Europeans and their descendants who migrated overseas had the greatest relative increase. In the last three centuries, they increased more than sevenfold, as against a threefold increase for the rest of the world.

ed are concerned, the rate of increase this century has been slowest in Europe (excluding the USSR) with 36%, and most rapid in the Americas with 112 per cent.

In Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States of America, the rates of population growth have exceeded those of Europe. The most rapid increase has been in Argentina (251 per cent), Cuba (231 per cent), Colombia (217 per cent), and Brazil (191 per cent).

Of the 2,378 million inhabitants of the world, the great majority—1,253 million—live in Asia. In fact, half of the total world increase has been contributed by the Asiatic countries alone.

Before the eighteenth century the major factor in controlling population growth was the death rate. Now with the extension of medical science and public health measures mortality is being reduced, with a resultant increase in pressure on available food resources.

The present-day Malthusians proclaim words of gloom, but there is no doubt that the technical means are available to provide for a still greater population than now exists and at a higher standard of living.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The all-Island daily service by The Guardian has gone over big.

Shipping is wary these days of 30 foot icebergs in the Strait of Belle Isle.

Now Egypt wants to go on strike against Britain; it remains only for the Sudan to strike against Egypt.

The 16 touring Toronto schoolboys seem to be having a delightful vacation and putting into practice the slogan, "See Canada First."

In one profession more than any other there is always room for improvement, viz., the teaching profession. Only human nature being as it is, it is not possible to make it uniform.

A supervisor of City Schools should be appreciated by children, teachers and parents alike. Say what we may, there is always satisfaction in having finally one man to whom to appeal when in doubt or difficulty.

Winnipeg, incredibly enough, cannot find enough mosquitoes since waging a campaign against the voracious creatures. The city is actually bringing in specimens from Ottawa "for investigation purposes."

At the present stage of the Old Age Security programme the Government is ahead and the expectant pensioners far behind the game with the temporary transfer of possession of birth certificates and other valuable papers.

The Spaniards, or Spanish press, last Saturday "mourned the loss of Gibraltar in 1704, not altogether unreasonably perhaps for men of the Royal Navy or R.C.N. celebrate its (unsuccessful) siege any day of the year.

According to "The Micmacs in Early Times", appearing in Tuesday's Guardian, the women in early pioneer days had not their sorrows to seek, and stood "manly" up to them. Read in yesterday's issue how they constructed their wigwams.

George Canning, English statesman, died this date 1827, bringing to a close his four months as prime minister. In various ministerial capacities, the tory Canning had shown remarkable talents for debate. He had planned the capture of the Danish fleet in 1807 which established English naval supremacy and, recognizing the independence of Spain's American colonies in 1823, may have inspired the Monroe doctrine. In his own words he "brought in the New World to redress the balance of the old."

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondent.

BUTTER PRICES

Sir.—The news columns announcing specific efforts by the Dominion Government, to either forestall or stabilize a butter shortage this winter, plus the price-level, was no surprise.

Old Charlottetown

"Yesterday, at about 12:45 p.m. our harbour was visited by a beautiful phenomenon. Immense drops of rain were falling, when a column descended from the clouds over the water near the Three Tides until within a few feet of the water, when a second column descended from the clouds, forming a waterspout about ten feet in diameter. The water seemed to boil for yards on all sides, while the rest of the harbour was beautifully calm.

The Press And The Radio

The Massey Commission Report has provoked a lot of discussion about the character and extent of the analogy between radio and the printed word, with the radio people largely contending that their medium has all the qualities of the printed periodical and should be entitled to all its rights, privileges and responsibilities.

In radio the advertising is inextricably interwoven in the program, and forces itself upon the listener whether he likes it or not. (The argument that he can turn the dial is not very impressive; the chances are that at the moment when he turns it he will merely find another advertisement on the next station.)

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass also on another sabbath, that he entered into the synagogue and taught; and there was a man whose right hand was withered, and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him. But he knew their thoughts, and said to the man which had the withered hand, Rise up, and stand forth in the midst. And he arose and stood forth. Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it? And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so; and his hand was restored whole as the other. And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Fort Atkinson, a town in Minnesota, was named after a general who fought there against the Black Hawks in 1836.

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Notes By The Way Paris police have seized \$100,000 worth of stolen carpets. Or what are sometimes known as hooked rugs. — (Windsor Daily Star). A Windsor woman has a magnolia tree which has bloomed twice a year. Don't be alarmed, lady, it's just another sign of inflation. — Windsor Star. Northampton, Massachusetts, experienced a "hay blizzard" for half an hour when a gale picked up several stacks from an adjacent pasture. But no cracks please, to the farmer about Gone With the Wind. — (Hamilton Spectator). What's in a name? A British geologist was kicked by his horse while crossing the Rockies in 1853 and his party named the scene of the mishap Kicking Horse Pass. The name sticks, one of the most famous in the world. — (St. Thomas Times-Journal). At a time when monarchs are in the public eye, it may be worth noting that poor ex-King Zog of Albania has appeared again, though obscurely, in the news. He is coming to the United States, but nobody invited him, and nobody has made any plans to put him up when he gets there. We have always felt sorry for Zog. Even when he was sitting on his uneasy throne, he could never succeed in being regally impressive — not with a name like that. And now he is left with that slightly ridiculous name and no country to rule over. People with odd names have a particular cross to bear. Even if they attain heights of glory, or pass through the catharsis of tragedy, nobody quite believes it. They feel that there must be a joke hidden somewhere. So it was with Zog's now immortal predecessor, the Akhond of Swat. When death came to him (in 1886) this serious visitation provoked one of the most hilarious lampoons in English literature, George Langin's Threnody: "Sorrow, Swats. Tears shed, Shed tears like water! Your great Akhond is dead That Swat's the matter." Probably Albania's unfortunate ex-king only has one chance at immortality — the chance that some poetic wit will celebrate Zog's logs in appropriate verse. — (Vancouver Province).

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