

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1952

Vagrancy

Parliament is undertaking a revision of the Criminal Code and this would seem to be an appropriate time to get rid of at least one outdated provision.

It is to this period that we owe the origin of the offence of vagrancy or being found wandering abroad without having any visible means of subsistence.

The basic offence, however, has ceased to serve a real purpose. The sturdy beggar is no longer such a threat to society that it is necessary to make it punishable to be idle.

Trachoma Campaign

Probably for the first time in the history of the world, notes an exchange, plans are under way to combat trachoma on a global scale. It is a virus eye disease.

According to the W.H.O., trachoma is present in practically every country in the world. The total number of sufferers has never been estimated, but it is believed there are millions.

The infectious eye condition is transferred from one person to another through towels, touching of hands and, according to one authority, even by sneezing.

The Debit Side

Never has the Canadian dollar stood so high, nor our budgetary surplus been so great. On the other hand it is announced that in 1951 Canada earned by selling things to other countries, and through its tourist trade, shipping and dividends, \$500,000,000 less than it paid to other countries for goods, machinery and food and services.

More startling, says the Spectator, were the paradoxes in trade. Out in British Columbia, where they have had an unprecedented lumber boom, a spokesman for exporters said that when deliveries are completed on United Kingdom bulk orders in September there is "nothing more in sight."

Then the battle to find, or retain markets for our farm produce was in full swing. The cancelling of cheese and bacon bulk buying contracts by Britain threatened un-

controllable surpluses in the Dominion and the government could only buy up supplies to keep prices from collapsing. A looming dairy crisis had distributors suggesting a cut in the price of milk to increase demand.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today the Queen's birthday.

The extension of the City Airport seems now practically assured, after a long and costly delay due to a former City Council's lack of vision and enterprise.

Early potato planting is recommended by Mr. S. G. Peppin, potato expert, in order to reap early crop for early marketing at present satisfactory prices.

Over the week-end the subject of most conversation was the condition of our streets and roads, and ever so many solutions were suggested. But, down to brass tacks, it is realized that the lack of money is the root of the trouble.

Mr. Norman John Berrill, Strathcona Professor of Zoology, McGill University and Mr. John Hubert Craigie, associate director, Science Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society in London, Eng.

Two "big shots" are on the cards for next week's speech-making. Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, at Charlottetown and Summerside; and Third Vice-President F. A. Gaffney, C. N. R., Chief of the Transport Research Department, at the City Board of Trade.

Britain is in the grip of a square-dancing boom and the shoe manufacturers couldn't be happier. The eagerness to swing your partner spread rapidly after the visit of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh here last year when they were pictured joining the fun at a country-style dance at Government House in Ottawa.

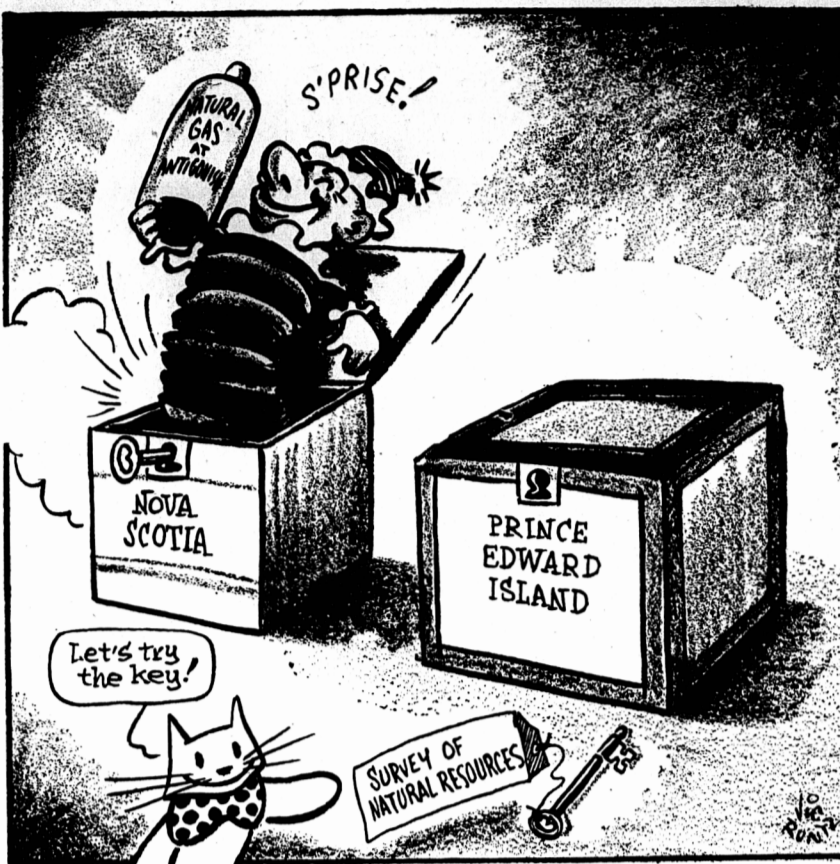
Charlotte Bronte, novelist and poetess, was born this date 1816. With her sisters Emily and Ann she published a volume of poems and followed it by a novel, "The Professor". It was not a success but its successor, "Jane Eyre", which is largely autobiographical, was received with extraordinary enthusiasm.

There's a strong campaign afoot in Ottawa (says the Gazette) to have the Civil Service placed on a five-day week. The move has strong backing from the big labor congresses. So far, the Government has postponed a decision.

Teachers in Toronto were advised to put variety into their dress as well as their teaching methods and speech, by Mr. G. L. Woodruff, principal of Hamilton Normal School. He told teachers of the Federal Government schools to "get away from wearing the same dress every day, or even the same tie."

A factor in the last Ontario election was the disclosure that Ontario Liberal Leader Walter Thomson had collected about \$320,000 in legal fees from the Federal Government during the post-war period. It's just been revealed, says The Gazette, that Norman L. Mathews, Q.C., president of the Ontario Liberal Association, has also fared well in this field.

Anything In It For Us?



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.

ROAD COMPLAINT

Sir.—Please allow me space in which to complain of the service received from the snow plow which operated in West Prince. We never got our roads open once this winter. All the rest of the district roads were opened around in a few days after each storm, but the Plussville Road was untouched. In fact there only had to be a good white frost for the plow to be on some road. We are still marooned here, as we cannot get out with wagon or sleigh, let alone a car.

I am, Sir, etc. OLD LIBERAL Piusville, P. E. I.

The Case For Clan Campbell

(The Scotman) Was the occasional unpopularity of the Campbells partly due to the fact that in the Highlands, as elsewhere, the other fellow did not like the man who was always "a jump ahead"? This theory was advanced at the first meeting of the recently formed Edinburgh branch of the Clan Campbell Society, held in the moral rooms, Princes Street with the Earl of Breadalbane, hon. president of the Society in the chair.

Mr. Ian M. Campbell, W.S. president of the branch, suggested that Sir Duncan Campbell one of Lord Breadalbane's sixteenth century ancestors, had to some extent shown the way to the planners of to-day when he zoned his country, from the West Coast to near the estuary of the Tay, and decided on the seven focal points where he would have his castles from which to check raids on his vast possessions.

We might regard the Scottish Tourist Board as something of an innovation, said Mr. Campbell, and then he quoted from the Statistical Account of Scotland, published in 1793 a passage on Glenorchy and Inishall that began with the words: "Nowhere in the Highlands has more attention been paid to the accommodation of the traveller than on the property of Lord Breadalbane."

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

From a letter by Robert Bruce Stewart, Esq., in The Examiner, Feb. 21, 1883: "In your paper of the 10th inst. I see a paragraph headed 'Change of Name', from Bull Creek, to Bayfield. The only Bull Creek that I know of is on Lot or Township Number 46, in King's County, I believe that the name 'Bull Creek' was bestowed upon that locality, in consequence of a farm, part of my late father's property, having been sold by the late Mr. — to a third party, the price being a Bull. Of this transaction I produced evidence before the Compulsory Land Commission in the year 1875. I regret that the name of Bull Creek should be changed, even to that of Bayfield, for it was a memorial, or an historical record of the fate and treatment accorded to 'proprietors de jure' in this Colony. This Bull Creek farm was by no means the only part of my late father's property sold by parties who had neither legal nor moral right or title—by giving what I have heard termed 'a squatter's deed.'"

White Man's Country

(Toronto Saturday Night) South Africa, which is currently celebrating the 300th anniversary of the arrival of its first Dutch settler, is receiving more brickbats than compliments these days. We doubt that many Canadians who strongly disapprove of what is going on in South Africa have a very clear idea of the situation, except that "Malan is mistreating the colored people". And without holding any brief for Dr. Malan we wonder if Canadians aren't just a bit too free to criticize the problem which we could only fully appreciate if we had 50 million Indians in Canada.

We say "South Africa" and not just Malan and his Nationalist Party advisedly. For while the United Party (formerly led by General Smuts) is in active opposition to Malan's measures, it also stands firm for a white South Africa. The real difference is that the United Party would not go backward, and take away such political rights as the Colored community and the Bantu natives presently possess. These rights—which really exist only in Cape Province, lie dormant in Natal and are denied in the Orange Free State and Transvaal—are guaranteed by one of the "entrenched clauses" in the Constitution. Malan's effort to take them back, by a bare majority in parliament in the constitutional-ly required two-thirds, "isn't justice", and that's what the demonstrations are about.

But the people demonstrating against Malan, we are assured by highly-qualified United Party sources, are in no way in favor of equal rights for "Coloreds" and natives. They shudder at the notion of a South Africa without a color bar, going the way of Brazil or Hawaii. They point out that, with the exception of the North African littoral South Africa is the only part of the continent suitable to white settlement. They see no comparison with what the British are doing in Nigeria and the Gold Coast to develop

Jacobite Press of the time. At the commission of inquiry held in 1695, the lumber killed while escaping through the hills. These numbers were not very large when a comparison was made with some other affairs in the Highlands. The point he wished to underline about Glenorchy, however, was that it was not a Campbell v. Macdonald affair. Captain Campbell of Glenloch, to whom the average person awarded the greatest part of the odium for the Massacre, was only a soldier, acting under orders, and he had seen no evidence to prove that when he was sent to the Glenorchy billets, Captain Campbell knew that this was part of a plan for an intended massacre.

The Age-Old Story

Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

native self-rule, since the British are merely handing over power in a territory which they have administered but never settled, while the nearly three million white settlers of South Africa are there to stay. Nor do the whites have any conscience about "taking the country" from the natives (as they might say we in Canada should have) since the Bantu only came into the almost empty land from the north as the white settlers began to push out from the Cape. Nevertheless, these people do feel under obligation to help the natives to a modicum of education, and no doubt they realize at heart that with education the Bantu will in time demand political rights. Declaring that the Bantu are perhaps a generation behind the American negroes in development, the United Party people appear to be claiming that margin of time gradually to solve a problem for which at present they can really see no good solution.

That South Africa could really be turned into a "white man's country" by simply "shifting the natives to the warmer areas of Africa" as the pro-Malan newspaper Vanderland now urges, far from being a matter of "courageous, far-sighted statesmanship" is a mad dream which would set all Africa, Asia and the U.N. by the ears.

The Poet's Corner

CROWS Crows know all things. Their shrewd bright eyes Glance sardonic as they strop their beaks And preen their hard black quills awry From hurried flight when beset and harried By the frantic darting of distracted finches. Crows know the rabbit crushed on the highway. The great cage of ribs and sprawl— Carrion clean picked and left to bleach. Crows do not know, some unlucky hour, The stealthy stalk of farmer boy, Shotgun glinting steel-hot sun. Surprised by death, they plummet to earth. Having known all, they lose all: and lie, Pitiful-brave handfuls of black. —Fred Swayze in Canadian Poetry Magazine.

TEMPTS YOUNGSTERS

TORQUAY, England.—(CP)—A special guard was placed on all exhibits of electric shavers when the Electrical Development Association organized an exhibition for schoolboys here. Officials explained that at previous exhibitions many youngsters emerged without eyebrows.

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Notes By The Way

Detroit and Windsor usually share their big events, but today Detroit has all the luck. It is host to a gracious lady, Queen Juliana of The Netherlands, and her consort, Prince Bernhard. Her Majesty's crowded itinerary unfortunately did not permit her to include a visit to Windsor. Many from Windsor and other parts of South-western Ontario will be in Michigan, however, to catch some part of this royal visit. There is a considerable number of Dutch residents, new and old, in this area. For them, regardless of age, the Queen will bring strong recollections of a colorful land across the sea. All of us can join with our good Dutch neighbors and friends in wishing Her Majesty and Prince Bernhard a pleasant visit to this area. —Windsor Daily Star.

When only small fish are caught in "your lake," there may be a reason — too many fish. It frequently happens, according to the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests biologists, that a species of water that the food supply becomes scarce, with the result that the species, while numerous, tend to be small in size and poor in quality. In this case, it has been shown to be beneficial to remove a large number of these fish and to replant them in other suitable waters. Recently, the department removed 12,500 stunted bass adults from overstocked lakes and placed them in more desirable waters. "Subsequently studies of retired, tagged bass showed that they had grown appreciably in their new homes," the experts reported.

In a recent speech here an insurance executive told his listeners that from a standpoint of safety, cars should be built without reverse gears. Apparently motor-

ists are given to putting their cars in reverse and backing up over fences, dogs, cats, human beings, flower beds and other local improvements. This plays havoc with accident statistics and gives insurance actuaries nights of sleepless worry. On the other hand a great many people, not associated with the insurance business, it is true, have grown fond of reverse gears and find them useful. Many motorists, for example, would find it an inconvenience if they had to trundle their cars out of the garage by hand. Anyway, we think that the insurance companies should have a greater scanner aimed at high gears than reverse gears. After all, not many motorists race trains to level crossings while backing up. —Winnipeg Tribune.

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