

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, OCT. 6, 1953 Fleet Air Arm Tragedy

Almost in the centre of the continent two airmen of the Royal Canadian Navy based in Summerside have met their death. On a training flight which had taken them to the West Coast and half way back the aircraft overturned and burned while landing at Kenora airport in Western Ontario.

The safety of this nation depends upon our maintaining highly efficient fighting forces on sea and land and in the air, both for direct defence and as a contribution towards the common defence efforts of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In all these vital matters the Fleet Air Arm has a most important role for Canada's particular responsibility is the maintenance of the freedom of the seas, the protection of trade and troop movements in the North Atlantic.

It is sometimes questioned why there should be casualties in training, but the fact is that no fighting force worth the name can be maintained without constant effort that must sooner or later result in fatalities. The death of these brave men and others is part of the price we pay for preparedness and their lives are equally given for their country as though lost in battle.

The hard training of relative peacetime would pay off directly in the prevention of large scale casualties in case of real fighting. History tells only too plainly how cheap is life in an ill-trained force when it comes up against another in a high state of training and efficiency.

In spite of necessity, however, and the arguments of common sense it is still deplorable that men should die because the world we live in is not safe for the weak. Someday, it is to be hoped, things will be different. In the meantime our servicemen purchase our safety and freedom at the risk of their lives.

A Disastrous Attempt

Only recently has come to light the story of a Russian attack on Mount Everest and its ending in disaster. The expedition, it would appear, was undertaken with the object of forestalling the second attempt by the Swiss party, and incidentally, the Hunt expedition.

A large force of climbers and scientists made the start from Lhasa with Tibetan guides, according to the Italian review "La Scarpone." The intention was to reach the summit from the north, a route formerly found to be so difficult that it had been abandoned. The climb was entrusted to six experts. They all failed to return. Tibetan guides entrusted with the task of making a search for the missing climbers returned to report that after they had been traced to a height of 26,800 feet all sign of them disappeared. It was believed they had been wiped out by an avalanche.

In the haste to outdo the other parties, the organizers are blamed in Russia for having failed to take proper precautions. The equipment is said to have been far too heavy and in the higher altitudes, the service of native porters was refused, apparently with the idea that the entire credit of reaching the summit for the first time should be confined to Russians. Details of the expedition and its failure, kept shrouded in secrecy by the Russians, have been disclosed by Tibetans who undertook the search for the missing climbers.

Canadian Attitude Indorsed

Hon. Lester Pearson has informed the United Nations General Assembly that so far as the Canadian Government is concerned, it will not support any military action in Korea that is not U.N. action and will resist any attempt to interpret existing U.N. objectives as including the unification of Korea by force.

Warmly indorsing this attitude, the Christian Science Monitor says: "If Syngman Rhee is listening he will hear in these words the authentic accents of majority world opinion. The Communists will find here also the 'reassurance' which Mr. Dulles recently admitted they may need, though without any hint of appeasement. Mr. Pearson describes the maximum hope for a Korean settlement as including a free and united Korea with a popularly elected government; the withdrawal of all foreign forces; and possibly an international and supervised guarantee of Korean security. The likelihood of such an achievement through negotiation may seem microscopic,

but it is just possible on the basis of a neutralized Korea."

Mr. Pearson is also quoted as stating: If the Communist side, or anyone else, by obstruction and inadmissible demands make a peaceful solution impossible, then the responsibility will be made clear, and the United Nations, at least, will have done its duty.

The "anyone else", comments The Monitor, is pretty clearly President Rhee, who has expressed his strong opposition to a neutralized Korea. "It could also apply to the United States if American demands at the conference should seem to insist on the sort of united Korea that might be considered an American military outpost. Peking would be unlikely to accept with equanimity any arrangement that would extend American military influence through a Korean 'protége' up to the Yalu."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Two cheese sandwiches a week on the menu of every Canadian would put this country's cheese industry on its feet, declares Ontario's dairy products commissioner. The Dairy Farmers of Canada are doing their best to attain that goal.

The meeting in Saint John of the Maritime Provinces Board of Trade which concludes today may well lead to great things. Growth and expansion are in the air and Maritime businessmen are showing themselves ready to take the initiative in order to bring about the long overdue development of these Atlantic Provinces.

"Teaching the young idea how to shoot" is not exactly the expression for the plans of the Kings County Fish and Game Association. The members are keen to establish a programme of teaching boys the principles of safe gun handling, a lesson which would have prevented many accidents in the past.

Ford Madox Brown, English painter, died this date 1893. Very early he showed a talent for drawing and painting and was sent to Bruges at the age of 14 to receive tuition. Two years later he was exhibiting his work and had shown a picture at the Royal Academy before he was 20. His style had much in common with the pre-Raphaelite school but came rather before that movement reached its summit.

Oyster fishing, once a trade of some importance in Scotland, is to start again on the West Coast, reports "News From Scotland". An exhaustive survey has been undertaken by the Scottish Marine Biological Association and at least two lochs measuring up to requirements have already been found. If tests are successful it should be possible to establish oyster fishing on a scale suitable for part-time crofter labour.

A search for the meaning of "loogans" as applied to carrier pigeons in these columns has the Ottawa Journal at a loss. The word is similar to loon or lown, a scamp, skulker or idler. In Old Norse it was lugan; in Icelandic, logn; in Middle Swedish, lugn and in Danish, lun. We must confess, however, that we did not originate the article in which it appeared but were such loogans as to lift it from the National Geographic Service.

The Guardian joins in extending warmest felicitations to Mr. J. P. Gordon, secretary-treasurer of Messrs. Moore and McLeo, Ltd., who today observes his eightieth birthday anniversary. One of the founders of this well-known firm, Mr. Gordon is still active in its business, and still keenly interested in civic and public affairs generally. His example is an inspiring one to the younger generation, and his friends, who are legion, will wish him many more years of health and activity.

Clear and simple language is one of the objectives of the president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. "If you cannot put it down in simple language," said Sir Edward Appleton, "you have not got to the bottom of it yourself. You don't lose any accuracy if you put things in ordinary words to the general public." Technical phraseology may be a useful kind of shorthand within a specialized group but there is no reason why intelligent thought cannot be made intelligible to those who are not specialists.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have had their badge, with some modification, approved and registered by the Garter King of Arms. Heraldry, which for some time seemed to be on the decline, received a strong boost during the Second World War when many units took an interest in creating a distinctive badge by which they could be identified. It might be worth while for Canada to establish her own College of Arms which could rule on such matters for the benefit of cities, schools, clubs and families as well as for military units.

Good Neighbour Fence Building



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.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS

Sir.—Education and all it entails is much in the minds of parents and other interested parties these days with back to school and college. I doubt if I dare give any opinions after reading the satire in Observer's "School Days" column, and all the highbrow, scholarly letters about grammar—I have thoroughly enjoyed them all, might add the name of another, Emily Dickinson, considered among the great, or near-great here—do not know how highly her writings are regarded in Canada—who let grammar and everything relating to correct form go by the board for the sake of thought, or to be for the accurate when it interfered with free expression of thought. She was severely criticized during her life-time by those who had her best interest at heart, but later relented and said why should her style be condemned when her thought staggered one?

All localities have their problems. In short, shortage of teachers, lack of proper accommodation, etc., (here in Oakland many schools have been condemned as earthquake hazards—inside information says the atom bomb is the real more acute danger to get together, however, give the best results.)

In passing just a word about those fine recipes contributed to The Guardian by the Women's Institutes. I was specially interested in the one "Banana Walnut Bread" as it was sent in by one of my numerous cousins. I know it is very good as a dear friend of mine sent me a loaf among other delicacies to help cheer me along the way, during my miserable and rather helpless days. This wonderful lady, almost eighty, served it at her Diamond Wedding "At Home" very recently for the sake of her male guests who she felt might appreciate something a little more substantial than the little bits of dainty nothings of open-faced sandwiches. September, on the wane, has been a lovely month here—unusual weather even for Oakland most of the summer which I could not enjoy to the full but perhaps there will be other and just as glorious summers. Another page with the best as always for P. E. I. and The Guardian.

I am, Sir, etc., G. S. GORDON. (Mrs. D. J.) Oakland, California.

More than 50 different specimens of oak trees are found in North America. About 85 per cent of the entire area of Prince Edward Island is suited for agriculture.

One Man's Belief

Sir Robert Lockhart in London Calling

I have spent the best years of my life in foreign countries and in my attempt to make myself a dispassionate observer of the foreign scene I have learned that every man must be prepared to admit that he may be mistaken.

I am therefore opposed to extremists; in particular, to those forms of fanaticism and dogma which claim that the end justifies the worst means. I believe in religious, racial and political tolerance, provided that it does not sink into apathy. I have reservations about the inevitability of human progress, nor can I accept the theory that mechanical invention necessarily adds to human happiness. Experience, too, has taught me that much harm has been done to our world by ignorant men of goodwill.

order. Somewhere along the line such youngsters have been hurt; in some way and are only lashing out at society as a consequence. Children, supposed to have no problems, always carefree and gay, often suffer terribly, especially if sensitive, as they do not know how to cope with their problems as the adult does. Those who are trying to solve world problems might do well to start at the source—the home—the real foundation of any nation. Church and school help but home should come first and the above mentioned only helpers—all three working together, however, give the best results.

"It may not be out of place to remind our readers that during the past winter Nova Scotia invited the Government of this Colony to send delegates to confer with delegates to be appointed by that Province, and New Brunswick, to discuss the subject of a Legislative Union—a matter on which the leading politicians of each of those Provinces appeared to be agreed. Without in any way committing themselves to the principle of a Union, Legislative or Federal, our Legislature determined on appointing delegates. Subsequently, matters in Canada reached a crisis and the 'statement of that great Province, who had witnessed the construction and dissolution of four or five administrations in as many years, were forced to admit that in the absence of a change in the Constitution of their country its government would be impossible. The present Government, a coalition, resolved to make the change; and aware that the Maritime Provinces were about to hold a Conference, they resolved to attend it—to ac-

The Poet's Corner

FROM THE CHINESE

These grey stones have rung with mirth and lordly carousel: Here proud kings mingled poetry and ruddy wine. All hath passed long ago: nought but this rule abideth. Sadly in eyelid's trance gazing upon the river. Wouldst thou know who here visiteth, dwelleth and singeth also. Ask the swallows flying from sunny-walld Italy. —Robert Bridges.

Old Charlottetown

(And F. E. L.)

UNION OF THE COLONIES

"We have been informed that, at an Executive Council held on Tuesday last, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to nominate five gentlemen to represent this Island at the Conference about to be held, for the purpose of considering the question of a Union of the Colonies. This Conference will, we believe, be held in this City about the 1st September, and at it will be represented Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The delegates named on behalf of this Island are the President of the Executive Council, the Attorney General, the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. George Coles and the Hon. Andrew A. McDonald—Messrs. Coles and McDonald representing Her Majesty's Opposition.

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Notes By The Way

Maybe our neighbors to the south are really creating world unity in a Marchiavellian sort of way—they've got just about everybody united against John Foster Dulles.—Hamilton, Spectator

"Autograph hunters were active as early as the 14th-century." In those days, however, it was much riskier, as the 14th-century big shot, approached at the wrong time, was likely to cleave you with his battle axe.—Edmonton Journal

There is a fellow in Piacenza, Italy, who claims to have invented a whistle with an E-flat note that attracts butterflies by the thousands. He also invented an argon which gas a distance of thirty feet. Apparently this genius collects butterflies without a net. He whistles them in and then argues them into insensibility. Science is wonderful. But we hope this inventor has horrible dreams of butterflies by the millions all whistling in E-flat and shooting him with gas-filled argons.—Vancouver Province

Heat from the depths of the earth will provide the power for New Zealand's first large-scale newsprint mills, now being built at Te Teko (North Island) and which will start producing paper in October, 1955. These mills will be unique in the history of paper-making, in that hot springs will provide an inexhaustible supply of high-pressure steam both for heat and to drive the turbines for electricity. This will mean a yearly saving of several hundreds of thousands of dollars in coal costs alone. Logs will be brought from Kaingaroa State Forest, 34 miles away, where 200,000 acres of pine were planted on waste pumice land over 20 years ago. Planting of new trees will perpetuate the forest for future use. A new town will be built at the mill site. —Unesco

Professor Agusto Piccard has achieved another ambition; he has touched the bottom of the Tyrrhenian Sea in a record plunge of 10,330 feet, deeper than man has ever been before. Piccard is a scientist who might have stepped from the pages of a Jules Verne romance. These plunges into the ocean are in a weird craft which Piccard and his son built. Known as a "Bathyscaphe," it combines the principles of a stratospheric balloon and a submarine. This spiritual son of Jules Verne broke the world's altitude record for an ascent in a balloon in the early thirties when he climbed to a height of 58,000 feet. In those days we used to see pictures of Piccard's tearful wife imploring him to desist, and in the end, he agreed never to go up in a balloon again. As he could not go up, he decided to go down and he chose the depths of the Gulf of Genoa as his destination where, as he expressed it, he expected to find the fish as bad mannered as human beings. Most people wonder why he plunges into the ocean depths where only the light on his "Bathyscaphe" can partially pierce the inky darkness. Piccard claims that it is in the interest of science. At one time he had fishing rods protruding from the sides of the "Bathyscaphe" and worked them by remote control from within. No mention of this is made in accounts of his recent experiments, but if they were there, we hope he had a good catch for he is a brave man and deserves it. —Hamilton Spectator

The Age Old Story Say unto wisdom, Thou art my slayer, and call understanding the kinswoman: that they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words. . . . Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

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