

Covers Prince Edward Island Lake the Dew
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Credit For Britain

Among the recommendations in the annual brief made to the Federal Government by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture was one dealing with this country's export trade with Britain. It was to the effect that the Government should make a certain amount of credit available to the British for the purchase of our farm products. This would be a good business arrangement as well as a gesture of friendliness to a country which over a period of many years was our most reliable customer. It could happen again, too, if Canadian authorities were to show a little more understanding of Britain's economic position. The United States is making extensive credit available to many European countries, some of which are inside or on the fringe of the Iron Curtain. There is no reason why Canada should not do as much for Britain.

There is something else to be said while on this subject. At the present time Britain is considering entering into a free trade agreement with the countries of Western Europe. Under the proposed formula member nations will be expected to impose higher tariffs than are now in force on imports from non-member nations. Thus far the British are holding out for exemption of goods from Commonwealth countries, especially agricultural products, from this protective formula. How long they can continue to do so and still hope to become a part of the free trade area is a question. Certainly, some arrangement for Canadian credit would encourage them to adhere to that policy which in the long run would be as advantageous to Canada as to Britain.

Britain has overcome economic difficulties in the past—plenty of them. In due course she will overcome the present ones. Meanwhile a little consideration from Canada would do no harm; and it would be a good thing for our future export trade.

Menace To Legislatures

According to a Toronto exchange, the electronic age has caught up with the Ontario Legislature. Members were startled the other day to see a strange device on the desk of Attorney General Roberts. The face of the device was lit up. What looked like words were seen passing over its face as Mr. Roberts launched into his speech. It was a "teletypewriter." Inquiry revealed that the Speaker has allowed the use of this machine, which came within the rules because Mr. Roberts' entire speech was not being rolled out, but only notes on technical details.

An electric substitute for the manuscript, the "teletypewriter" is now being used extensively in the United States. Let us hope that we shall be very slow in following such an example in this Province, or at Ottawa for that matter. Whatever its advantages on TV programmes, its use in any parliament is an abomination.

It is, as the Ottawa Journal declares, "an invention for dunces, a godsend for the lazy and the illiterate"; it is first degree murder for public speech, and has been described by one robust critic as "a contraceptive between a speaker and his audience."

"That such an infernal device should be allowed in the Legislature of Ontario, once a forum for men like Blake and Mowatt," says our Ottawa contemporary, "is almost unbelievable cause for reflection upon the intolerable dullness which almost everywhere seems to be taking joy and sparkle—and sincerity—from our way of living."

"Imagine Gladstone pleading the cause of Home Rule with a 'teletypewriter' in front of him! Or Laurier with a 'teletypewriter' on the hanging of Louis Riel! Or Lincoln with such a monstrous machine on the platform of Gettysburg! Or anybody anywhere 'calling transcendent meanings up from the best passions of all bygone time' by words before him on a drum!"

Yes-And-No Technique

If the ability to indulge in double talk and make it agreeable to one's conscience is the secret of success in diplomacy, Immigration Minister Pickersgill ought to make a first-rate diplomat. He might even find a place in the United Nations' Secretariat after he has had a little more experience.

Some months ago the Indian Affairs Department, acting under Mr. Pickersgill's direction, ordered a group of Indians evicted from their homes at the instance of ten disgruntled members of the tribe. Now that the court has declared the eviction order to be null and void, Mr. Pickersgill says he is "delighted." His statement on hearing the news was such a skilful exercise in the yes-and-no-answer-to-the-same-question technique that perhaps it should be given here just as it came from Mr. Pickersgill's mouth: "I am delighted by Chief Judge Buchanan's decision, because I have felt that these people who have always been regarded as Indians should continue to be regarded as Indians. But I also felt it was my duty to carry out the law and to give both sides to the dispute their day in court."

Almost anyone would interpret that to mean that Mr. Pickersgill knew all along that the eviction order was both illegal and morally wrong and that he authorized it just for the fun of putting the injured Indians to the last possible degree of embarrassment. Why, if he thought the eviction order was wrong, did he not put the burden of appeal on the ten who started the trouble? But what's the use of asking questions in a case like this? It is evident that Mr. Pickersgill has his eye on some important diplomatic post in international politics; and he is doing everything he can think of to prove his worthiness.

EDITORIAL NOTES

An educator says that "education will not thrive as it should until teachers on all levels are satisfied with their lot." We can look forward, then, to an indefinite period of something less than a perfectly thriving educational pattern. Very few human beings are satisfied with things as they are.

An American educator complains about the quality of teaching in teachers' colleges and normal schools. "Faculty members", he says, "who cannot bring their students to the edges of their chairs at least two or three times during a term are liabilities". Others will say that any teacher who can do this difficult feat is a magician.

Prime Minister Ben-Gurion of Israel has more than his share of troubles. However, he has one advantage which falls to few Government leaders, namely, the support of all political parties in his national policy. If he is eventually forced out of office it will not be because he was too firm in dealing with his country's enemies but because he was not firm enough.

Eric Savereid, one of America's distinguished news analysts, said in a recent address: "The United States is not appearing to the rest of the world as a great nation that knows its own mind." How can it be otherwise when the nation's chief spokesman, Mr. John Foster Dulles, spends the better part of any given day in retracting or explaining away what he said the day before?

Taxpayers in the \$3,000-\$6,000 income group represented the largest source of income tax in 1954. They paid \$499,431,000, the revenue department said Monday in a parliamentary return for Rev. E. G. Hansell (SC-Macleod). Taxpayers in the \$10,000 or higher bracket paid \$307,130,000; those under \$3,000, \$207,428,000 and those in the \$6,000-\$10,000 group, \$133,303,000.

Negotiations between Britain and Jordan on terminating their 1948 treaty have been going so smoothly and in such a friendly manner that some Jordanians are reported to be wondering whether it was not a mistake to break off the relationship. They are probably thinking of the \$36 million which Britain was giving them annually and which they "hope" to receive in the future from Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia.



MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE SAYING

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.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sir.—A few years ago, the educational authorities of Charlottetown caused to be made a survey of all matters relating to Schools and curriculum in the City. This study resulted in the publication of the well-known "Matthews Report". While all of us may or may not agree with all of the conclusions arrived at in that report, the voluminous statistics compiled may be accepted at face value.

One of the most startling sets of statistics concerns drop-outs of those pupils who leave school before completing the twelve grades which include the high school years, and which, everywhere else, are considered to be the minimum requirement of educational standard. The report indicates that approximately two out of every three pupils leave school before completing Grade X, and four out of five before completing Grade XII. It should be impressed that these figures are for Charlottetown schools where, if anywhere in the Province, education is available at the door-step and at a minimum of physical inconvenience.

Despite publicity and propaganda to the contrary, our most important natural resource is not our certified seed potatoes, our disease-free cattle, or our quality York-shire hogs, all of which we export in volume. Our greatest natural resource, and, unfortunately, our most important export, is the youth of our Province. In the field of agriculture, we are aware that our products must compete in the markets of the world; consequently great care and considerable expense is put to seeing that our agricultural exports are of a quality not excelled elsewhere. We are not, however, so concerned with the standards which our young people must meet in the highly competitive labour markets of Upper Canada.

These young people, leaving the Island with but a Grade 8, 9, or possible 10 education are thrown into competition on the labour market against young men and women, better educated and better trained, and, in consequence, they are destined to be the hewers of wood and drawers of water, unqualified to fill the positions otherwise open to them. We have failed to move with the moving world, and to recognize the fact that an antiquated educational system, adequate in the eighties, will no longer do. True, in the past, we have produced leaders of Church, of State, and of Industry, but these are the exceptions who succeeded in spite of, rather than because of, the system which produced them.

In this day, a young man, or woman with a grade 8, 9, or 10 education is no longer considered educated, he has been merely introduced to education. Though it is heresy to say so, possibly one of the greatest detractions to local education is Prince of Wales College, and its entrance exams. This artificial barrier, coming in the middle of the High School course, with the entrance exams dominating the mind of the pupil from the time he reaches Grade 7, constitutes a major psychological barrier which only the brightest, or most persevering, student can overcome. In result, we have only one in five who secures what may now only be considered a basic High School education, Grade 12.

We must, therefore, revise our educational thinking to bring it in line with the indisputable facts of life. More important, we must give our youth a chance for an even break when they leave our shores, to seek a livelihood elsewhere. To do this, we must place them on an equal footing, education-wise, though it may mean uprooting some of our most cherished illusions. With the exception of the Island, it is universally recognized that a Grade 8 primary, and Grades 9 to 12, High School, system will produce that basic education. Yet in Charlottetown, with some three thousand pupils registered in the Grade Schools, a grade 11 and 12 education is denied them under the free public

Income Tax Time

Christopher Billopp in the Guelph Mercury

Income-tax time is when people sit down and figure out how much money they made during the past year and how much they owe the government.

It is when they wish they were over 65 years old and their wives were 65 years old, and that they also had a large number of dependents.

It is when they regret they have received in wages or salary quite

as much as they did receive, and that they passed the whole of the last year without a catastrophic illness.

It is when they are distressed that they did not give more to charity, and that, on selling securities, they did not suffer a heavy loss instead of making a substantial gain.

It is when they conclude that fate was against them since their real property was not visited by a cyclone, hurricane flood or plain windstorm that did considerable damage.

It is when they wish they had lent large sums of money to people who failed to repay them, and that their expense accounts had been larger and their business had been less profitable.

It is when they wonder if they would have been better off had they not received an unexpected windfall and had stayed in a lower income bracket; and are disappointed, that in the course of the year, they did not use more gasoline from which they could have deducted the tax, and that their federal and city real estate taxes were not much higher than they were.

It is when for a brief moment they experience all the sensations of being one of the envied rich, knowing full well that it will last only until they mail their cheque to the Receiver General of Canada after which they will fall back again into their accustomed place among the unenvied poor.—Christopher Billopp.

SNOWPLOW SERVICE

Sir.—May I have some space in which to write something regarding the snowplow service that we, the residents of the main Western Road between Elmsdale and Alma, are receiving.

In the first place, the Western Road always was the main highway disregarding the fact that the paved highway was built through Alberton to accommodate those who had more political pull than somebody else, and should be one of the first roads to be opened.

Secondly, why does the plow despatches have to have roads leading to the more remote villages plowed before some of the main sections of roads are opened? Thirdly, why don't the operators in this area work at the job instead of making cow paths that are filled with the least drift. Time and again they travel up and down in the cutting with plows and wings up, and when a storm comes, they certainly have a struggle to get the roads opened.

Two operators from the Second District of Prince were in this area on Saturday, and their work should not to shame the plowing done by the local operators. Any one who has driven on the roads in the Second District can see how nicely the roads are widened. These two men are at work in the morning and work at the job. Mind you, they are operating the same kind of plow as our local men are using, so wherein lies the fault?

Fourthly, does the Minister of Highways not know what is going on, and can something not be done to remedy the situation? It certainly is not getting any better from year to year.

We certainly've every right to get our cars and trucks on the road as to other fellow, and why something cannot be done about it is beyond me. They want our car registration fee, license fee, and gasoline tax. I so we want our section of the road plowed.

Fifthly, if our local representatives would stand up for their constituencies, and really work at their job, we would get results. Are they not there for the purpose to serve the people to the best of their ability, or simply for the "vetting" of an M.P.?

Although anticipating that this letter will not have any far-reaching effect, it might encourage someone to support this matter and carry it over.

I am, Sir, etc.
D. J. JENKINS, DISSATISFIED.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Budesen, M. D.

ANNUAL CHECK-UP HELPS TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS
You may feel perfectly well—and yet be ill with tuberculosis. For, unfortunately, in the early stages of TB—the time when the disease can most easily be cured—there usually are no symptoms to warn you of your peril.

Eventually signs do appear, but often not until the disease has reached the advanced stage. Such symptoms may include loss of appetite, loss of weight, excessive fatigue, frequent colds, fever, chronic coughing, night sweats, indigestion and spitting up of blood.

Any one or all of these symptoms might be present, yet they do not necessarily mean that you have TB. They do, however, mean that you should have a thorough physical checkup.

Even when you feel perfectly healthy, an annual examination is advisable. In addition to a thorough physical, I suggest your examination include:

1—A chest X-ray which can show whether TB germs are present in your body.

2—A chest X-ray which can show whether TB germs have done any damage.

3—Laboratory tests to find out if TB germs are growing and escaping from the body.

I urge all of you over the age of 15 to have a chest X-ray taken annually. This is especially advisable if your tuberculin tests prove positive.

WATCH CHILDREN

While children between the ages of 5 and 15 are less likely to have active TB than are adults, they should have an annual check-up too.

Of course, if you have been exposed to the disease, you should have examinations more frequently than once a year.

We can cure the vast majority of cases of TB. But you've got to help us help you.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

F. K.: What causes ulcers?

Answer: There is no definite proof as to what causes ulcers. Some believe they result from increased production of acids by the glands of the stomach; others think they are due to a blood vessel disturbance; still others believe they may be caused by some form of nerve disturbance.

The Poet's Corner

EVENING AND MORNING

What of the dawn's recurring miracle.
When cowl of night recedes to show brightspires;
Cathedral forests wake to linnet's bell,
And to the Aves of the feathered choir?

Then nave and transept echo matins' chant,
Chalice and chapel share the sifted light.
That drifts rose windows of the east to slant
Into green shrines where drowsy birds recite.

Their rosaries. At noons the cloistered cells
Are murmurous with softly whispered prayer,
Until the carillons round vesper bells
And lanterned glowworms light their evening fares.

Thus, down to dusk, the brevaries run
Continual novenas to the sun.
—Isabel Tudeen,
in the New York Times.

NOTES BY THE WAY

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(March 6, 1932)

During the year 1931 P.E.I. continued to hold the lead in marketing a higher percentage of Select Bacon Hogs than any other equal area in Canada. This standard, in the face of low prices, is good evidence that P.E.I. farmers are doing their part to maintain the equality of Island hogs.

TEN YEARS AGO

(March 6, 1947)

Two new steel floats are to be placed at the Rocky Point pier to facilitate the docking of the ferry by April 1st of this year when the floats will have been completed at Amherst, N.S. It is understood that the wooden floats on the Charlottetown side will not be replaced this year, but possibly next year.

Two million, two hundred thousand eggs have been shipped to the British Ministry of Food from Prince Edward Island during the past three months. It was announced yesterday by F. M. Nash, Senior poultry products inspector for the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

THE MAN WHO LOSES INTEREST

saving wins up by losing the interest.—Edmonton Journal

The most expressive typographical error in recent weeks: "Traffic moved at a snail's pace."—Edmonton Journal

Astronomers report that there is no chlorophyll on Mars. So when those little men visit us on their flying saucers, we must really ask them to stand downwind.—Hamilton Spectator

What is alarming in the prediction that the world population will double in the next hundred years is the possibility that the number of automobiles will double also.—Cornwall Standard

Nearly two-thirds of all Americans now live in states where daylight saving time is observed, regionally or statewide, from Spring to Fall. In every state east of the Mississippi and outside the deep south, except one, there is daylight saving time. The exception.—Wisconsin.—Milwaukee Journal

In North American there is a growing tendency towards government by pressure groups. The lobbies have always been with us, but of late years, the sickness and thoroughness of modern organization methods has enabled certain groups to parcel together large masses of people into what make formidable voting factors the deep election time. The individual no longer votes, according to his own ideas, but as part of a mass of voters who are told how to vote by their leaders.—The Canadian Doctor

MAXIMS

Submit to what is unavoidable, banish the impossible from the mind, and look around for some new object of interest in life.

The Age Old Story

The Lord was with him, and that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper.

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KEITH B. JENKINS, Branch Manager
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Copy of Annual Report for Year 1956 will be gladly furnished on request.