

THE GUARDIAN

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EDITORIAL NOTES

That was a generous send-off which Summerside Kinsmen gave Mayor Wedge's Rink Fund.

The Foot-and-Mouth Disease inquiry at Ottawa is disclosing serious differences between official veterinarians as to how and when to use the Government Agricultural Laboratory at Hull, Que.

It will not be easy to work up any outside sympathy for this country with its temporary meat surplus. The tendency will be to suggest that we should go ahead and eat it.

The restrictions regarding visitors to patients in P. E. I. Hospital announced by chairman N. D. MacLean are found necessary in the interests of the patients themselves. It is a good and kindly act to visit the sick, but medical experience has shown that you can have too much of such a good thing.

Hon. Mr. Cullen is convinced that the improvement of the local airport facilities will provide means for developing the export of our surplus milk to Seven Islands and Newfoundland. There are unlimited prospects for agricultural exports were Charlottetown's runways extended as proposed by Mayor Stewart.

New Brunswick potato producers are understandably irked by the "black market" shipment of Maine potatoes from under the American ceiling price to the now profitable Canadian market. Maine growers gave vent to much the same expressions of irritation when Canadian potatoes were going the other way and receiving the benefit of American price support.

Viscount Snowden, English politician, died this date 1937. He became a privy councillor in 1924, and was chancellor of the exchequer during the short Labour administration. He resumed that office in 1929 and became extremely popular for his stand at the Hague conference on war reparations. He served on various royal commissions. His writings include, "A Socialist Budget", "Labour and the New World" and his autobiography.

The fortunate 50 girls who are to be provided with a free trip to the Coronation next year are to be asked to extend an invitation to Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh to acquire a royal residence in Canada in which they could spend periodic vacations. The suggestion is a good one, and it is to be hoped the site selected will be in this Province which would provide ideal for the purpose, comparable with Balmoral in Scotland.

What will agricultural scientists do next? They have figured out that to make a tablespoonful of honey a single bee has to visit around 2,000 flowers, while a pound of honey in the hive is the result of a minimum of 37,000 bee trips to flowers and back! These 37,000 bee loads per pound result in a total bee mileage of about 50,000—or twice round the globe—for a hiveful of bees making their average of about 100 pounds of honey in a season. Yet from an average flower a single bee extracts only about one-half grain of nectar.

The Quebec Government may soon ban manufacture, sale and possession of margarine substitutes which have been sold in Quebec since margarine was banned in 1949. Premier Duplessis states the Quebec Government may extend the ban to "imitations" of margarine called "spreads". In some cases, the Premier said, the manufacturers of margarine substitutes claim milk is the basis of their product. But they fail to say that little milk goes into the product or that it is of inferior quality. The Premier reiterated that the margarine ban was designed to protect the Quebec dairy industry. He said vegetable oil was imported into the country to manufacture margarine or other butter substitutes. The Quebec Government favored consumption of products made with locally-produced foods.

Canada boosted her wheat exports to 169,800,000 bushels in the first eight months of the current crop year, a 67-per cent gain over the 101,400,000 bushels in the same period a year ago, the Bureau of Statistics reported. The big gain in exports, with about one-third of the total going to Britain, was sparked partly by shrinking world supplies at a time when Canada's own stocks were bountiful. The world outlook for new crops is bright. Canada's Prairie wheat-seeding weather was ideal in April. The U. S. forecast total American winter and spring crops at about 1,200,000,000 bushels, a jump from last year's 988,000,000 and the 1940-49 average of 1,071,000,000.

All Out Offensive



The Passing Scene

By Observer

A LETTER TO TWO YOUNG FRIENDS

Recently I received a note from two young friends who live in a large Mid-West American city. Donnie is 14, and his brother Ronnie a year or so younger. It seems that last Fall they happened to see a car bearing a P. E. I. license plate on one of the city's main thoroughfares. Ever since they have been trying to persuade their parents that they should all come this way to spend their vacation. Meanwhile, they have been reading up on Canada but so far have not been able to find much about this part of the country. Knowing that I live here, they thought they would inquire as to whether I felt such a long trip would be worth their while. That is the gist of their letter. I cannot think of anything more pleasant to my selfish than to be consulted in such a matter by a couple of youngsters whose parents, I happen to know, are in a position to take them anywhere in the world for their precious vacation. My hope is that in my reply, I gave them good advice. At any rate, this is what I wrote:

Dear Donnie and Ronnie, "You have been good enough to inquire if I think you should come to Prince Edward Island for your vacation. Frankly I think you should, and I want to tell you why. Let me begin by saying that, since you live near one of the busiest intersections in America, it is only right that you should have the opportunity of seeing one of the most leisurely places in the world. This would help you to develop what your father, being a psychologist, would call a good perspective. I cannot exactly explain what I mean but one of the strongest convictions is that no one should go through life without seeing this Island at least once, and, of course, the earlier the better.

"Before I go any further, let me tell you some of the things you will "not" see if you come this way. I expect, like most Mid-Westerners, the pictures you associate chiefly with Canada are those portraying Indians and Mounties. Well you will not see any real Indians here, at least none of the story book type. You would have to go to Toronto for that, and really I don't think it would be worth it. Speaking for myself, it would take a much more powerful incentive to take me to Toronto.

"As for the Mounties, there are quite a few here and they are very much alive, but their former glory is now simply another finished page in the Canadian story. They are good enough fellows, mind you, and their devotion to duty is generally unquestioned. And I will say that they still look handsome in their colorful uniforms, but somewhat they do not inspire the poets or story-tellers any more. But what institution does in this machine-bound, unromantic, unimaginative age!

"You will not see any big buildings, de-luxe highways, penny arcades, or large crowds trying to find their way in the maze of noise and clutter. These are symbols of a civilization different from ours. "What then can I promise you? Fair, gentle weather? I wish I could say so, but because you are my friends, I have to be cautious. The best I can say is that I have seen lots of good weather in this part of the world. The fact that there has been none so far this Spring I mention only incidentally. It will come one of these days, and if it were you, I would take a chance around the middle of July. And you can almost be certain that you will not run into tornadoes, hurricanes, cloudbursts and the like. These phenomena are much too boisterous for our way of life, and they know enough to stay away.

"It has occurred to me that in all probability you have never seen salt water, but I am sure you realize there is such a thing. Not all Mid-Westerners are so artless in this respect as an acquaintance in Indiana who asked me how in the world we managed to salt such huge bodies of water! "I feel very strongly that no boy should grow to manhood without some first-hand knowledge of the salt sea. Here you can see it and smell it from almost any point and, in the summer, when it is in its most kindly mood, it is blue. I really believe, than anywhere else I know about. To stand on Tea Hill (this is one of the spots you must see if you come) and look across the blue, tranquil plain of Pownal Bay is one of the most exhilarating experiences that can come to anyone who likes to think "long, long thoughts."

"While you are here you will be able to absorb a good deal of refreshment, and when you go back to school, September you will be better students on account of it. Your land-locked teachers will be surprised, but that will be because they have never had the good fortune to be initiated into the mysteries of blue sea water. "In your State the wonder of the countryside is the April intermingling of the dogwood and redbud foliage. Often I myself have found this delight in the picture. Here you will find nothing so inspiring. Lack of heavy industry is responsible for the absence of skyscrapers in our towns, and Nature has seen to it that we have none in our forests. They would be incongruous on a little island like this. Instead she has given us myriads of tiny wild flowers. These do not catch your eye at every turn. They are for the most part hidden patronizing advertisers they are, of course, benefiting in the purchase of proven articles at fair or even sale level prices.

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.

RED CROSS APPRECIATION

Sir,—The Red Cross 1952 appeal has already reached more than 80 per cent of its objective—a decided increase over the same period last year—and we have every hope of reaching our goal by the end of the year. You will have had a great deal to do with writing this happy ending and I want to express the gratitude of the Society for your ever-generous cooperation and assistance to us. Without the support of the daily press, not only at campaign time but the year round, it would be impossible for Red Cross to continue its work, and this fact is recognized by Central Council, the highest governing body, which this year again passed a unanimous resolution thanking the daily press for its "valued support of our Society."

Once again I have the pleasure of saying "Thanks!" I am, Sir, etc. H. H. RIMMER, Chairman, National Publicity Committee

TEACHERS & LEGISLATORS

Sir,—The Alberton party, who is afflicted with scribblers' itch, likely heard the announcement that the teachers would be paid their increase in a lump sum for the final three months of the school year. It is usual to legislate for the government fiscal year,—but it was not done when the last teachers' increase was enacted. We note the objection to increased pay for legislators. The extra is to attract better candidates. As teachers teach only a 25-hour week for 36 weeks and work less than half the days in a year, they might give consideration to becoming candidates at the next election. They would have the time to devote to it. It would supplement their meagre salaries if they were elected, and likely they would be progressive in their ideas and their education would fit them for formulating suitable bills. I suggest that they try it; they may find it an easy way to get some place rather than by writing examinations, and reading books.

I am, Sir, etc. EXAMINER

FARM PRICE CONTRAST

Sir,—In that excellent table on your front page showing "P. E. I. Farm Production" (Dec. 29 issue) I couldn't help noticing the following contrast in the field crop valuation, showing the yield and the value of "potatoes" in the two years 1950 and 1951:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Yield, Value. 1950: 10,500,000 bus., \$2,940,000. 1951: 6,280,000 bus., \$9,420,000.

This townsman, naturally, is not conversant with the supply-demand marketing facts behind the above figures; but one thing can be stated with regard to same and with reasonable accuracy, namely, that urban marketing technique, in almost every operational field, has found a way to pass the above jittery price situation colorfully termed "Boom-Bust Alley" by one of the columnists. Of course, I realize that it is infinitely easier for a city manufacturer to adjust output to available market-hunger for his goods, than for the farmer to adjust his supply, over which he has little control, to market demands—over which he has still less regulatory influence. Nevertheless, and while it is alike difficult and dangerous to develop industrial escape hatches for potatoes, in seasons of abundant crops, I have long felt that the laboratory hasn't commenced to be properly harnessed to the job of stabilizing potato valuations at more equitable levels than are indicated by the above figures? A Maine grower (C. G. Mc-

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ADVERTISEMENTS

From The Examiner, March 9, 1933: Readers are assured that "the only steam, sewing machine, and gun repairing shop on P. E. Island, and the only place where you can get every part of a sewing machine or gun made, is at Browns shop, corner of Prince and Grafton Street."

Thomas Dodd advertises to let "the Brick House on Pownal Street, at present occupied by James D. Irving, Esq." R. F. Quirk announces the spring sailings from Liverpool, Eng., to Charlottetown and Summerside of the clipper brigantine "Isabella," Wm. Kennedy, master, taking goods at through rates for all stations on the P. E. Island Railway. Amelia Palmer advertises for sale "one pasture and building lot, situated opposite the Victoria Park, and near the residence of F. W. Hyndman, Esq." W. A. Weeks & Co. announce special bargains at the "Sign of the Lion", and March sales are also advertised by Perkins & Sterns, D. A. Bruce, 72 Queen Street, and at L. E. Prowse's, 74 Queen Street, "one door below Stampers' Corner."

A lecture on Thomas D'Arcy McGee by F. J. Conroy, Esq., before the Catholic Literary Union, in St. Patrick's Hall, is advertised for the evening of the 14th inst., "admission 10 cents, reserved seats 15 cents." Mrs. J. D. Hazard advertises to let "a cottage on the corner of Euston and Cumberland Streets, now in possession of R. W. Tremaine, Esq." John Newson advertises White Russian seed wheat, "well suited to the Island soil and climate," while J. & T. Morris claim equal satisfactory results from their "Old Fyfe, raised from seed imported last Spring."

Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod, secretary, on behalf of the Ladies' Hospital Committee, announces the holding of a Bazaar on July 10 in aid of the City Hospital. Dr. MacLeod announces that he has removed his office to his residence, "next door to Zion Church, south side Queen Square." Dorsey, Goff & Co. announce that their is "the right place to get a pair of boots for crossing the Capes," while W. P. Colwill has for sale, "very cheap, a splendid lot of Rockingham teapots," and other crockery.

The Age-Old Story

And Abigail came to Nabal; and behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed be the Lord, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil.

Intyre) draws the following interesting verbal scene, along the potato marketing front: "In periods of surplus and in periods of normal supply, off-grade potatoes should be directed to by-product use. We have in Maine by-product facilities to handle 400,000 bushels of potatoes per week. This is nothing, less or more, than what the Lord, that hath at times in the past these facilities have hardly been adequate. I believe we should put a great deal more emphasis on research in marketing and by-products." So do I, Mr. Editor.

I am, Sir, etc. CONSUMER.

VAST DESERT

The Libyan area in North Africa, mostly desert, covers an area of 650,000 square miles.

The Poets Corner

REFLECTION

Beneath the silvered surface of this pool, A captivating country seems to lie With gleaming, cloud-flecked, morning-colored sky. And bending trees, low, shadowy, and cool. Why should the slightest incident Create a tempest in the lucid scene And change the pattern of its shining screen That winds may ruffle, that the rain may stifle? By what strange planning, with what clever cunning, Could one, in secret, steadily attain That land below the surface? First with plain Clean dive, and then with overhanded running To slide down dreaming trees— at last to stand Alone, exultant, in an unknown land! —Sjanna Solum.

About Newspapers

We are not so naive as to think we can persuade the public to pause more than a moment or so to consider the plight of the newspaper industry, says the Ottawa Journal. But for that brief moment or so here are some facts mentioned at the annual meeting of the Canadian Daily Newspapers Association last week by the General Manager, Mr. Ian MacDonald. In the last 10 years the number of readers of Canadian daily newspapers has grown from 1,900,000 to 3,500,000, or 84 percent. True, subscription rates have increased 86 percent, in those years, but... "Circulation remained at the end of 1951 fell short by 13.6 percent, paying even the annual newspaper bill of CDNA member newspapers which had grown from \$8,600,000 to \$38,570,000—an increase of 316 percent."

In short, the man who pays his nickel for a paper doesn't remunerate the publisher for the price he had to pay for even the newspaper that went into that paper. Everything else is thrown in; news services, payrolls, costly equipment, taxes and so on. A nickel newspaper is unquestionably the best buy on the market, to say nothing of its being about the only thing you can still get for a nickel.

It is, of course, advertising revenue that keeps the paper coming to the subscriber's door, though there has to be a limit to what even advertisers can pay. We think it only fair to say, too, that advertisers have not been given due credit for their part in maintaining the newspaper. A democracy needs newspapers, as do liberty and freedom. The task of continuing to publish newspapers in these days of soaring labor and newspaper costs has had inevitably to be shared by publishers and advertisers and the former without the latter could not have done the job.

The buyer of a daily newspaper gets his paper at less than cost. If he is in a mood to show appreciation of this fact, the way is clear for him to patronize the merchants and producers whose advertising is in fact the mainstay of newspaper publishing. Meanwhile, the newspaper industry has cleaned house of extravagances and worked enterprisingly on money-saving inventions that will yet not impair the papers' quality. The government has subsidized radio and goodness knows what else. We would want no government subsidy for newspapers for obvious reasons. But the people of Canada who must all share that feeling might well ponder the value to themselves of their daily papers and do what they can to carry their own share of the responsibility of maintaining them. And in

Food-Importing Australia

Australia is one of the great almost unoccupied land masses of the world. For generations the people of Britain and other older countries looked to the Island continent as a future granary of the world, an inexhaustible source of meat and wool.

Today Australia is in danger of becoming a food-importing country. In part it is due to drought conditions but the basic reason is the way in which immigration was conducted. Instead of going on the land and adding to the food supply, immigrants flocked to the cities so that half the population of the Commonwealth was located in the six great cities. The remainder was divided between smaller communities and the scattered sheep or cattle "stations".

In this country development has been on a sounder basis but the trend is similar. If we allow the cities to grow too rapidly at the expense of the farming community we too will be a food-importing country and there are ever fewer countries with a surplus to take care of us.

Farm Population

It is somewhat reassuring to note that the apparent 15.5 per cent decline in the number of farms in Canada during the past decade, as shown by the 1951 Census, arises from a change in the definition of a farm. Applying the new definition to the 1951 census figure of 732,858 farms would reduce the number to 677,500, and mean, on a comparable basis, a reduction of 8.6 per cent in the number of Canadian farms since 1941. On this basis, British Columbia showed a 21.1 per cent increase in the actual number of farms (26,406). Ontario has more farms than any other province, with 149,920 after a decrease of 10.3 per cent. Next comes Quebec with 134,336 farms; New Brunswick, 26,431; Nova Scotia, 23,515; and Prince Edward Island, 10,137. Manitoba has 52,383 farms; Saskatchewan 120,108; Alberta 84,311.

In farm acreage, the picture is quite different, Saskatchewan leading all other provinces by a wide margin. Of a total area in farms in 1951 of 174,046,654 acres, Saskatchewan had 61,663,195 acres; Alberta, 44,459,632 acres; Ontario, 20,880,054; Manitoba, 17,730,393 acres; Quebec, 16,786,405 acres; British Columbia, 4,702,274 acres; New Brunswick, 3,470,234 acres; Nova Scotia, 3,173,691 acres; Prince Edward Island, 1,095,304 acres; and Newfoundland, 85,040 acres.

In all Canada, there were 36,514 holdings of from one to three acres, with a production value of less than \$250 each in 1950. These occupied 66,738 acres. Curiously enough, 13,631 of these were in Newfoundland and occupied 21,881 acres.

Farms where the owner does not live on the farm are classified as non-resident farms, and in Prince Edward Island there are 430 of these. The number in Newfoundland is 203; in Nova Scotia 650; in New Brunswick 954; in Quebec 8,175; in Ontario 6,923; in Manitoba 4,511; in Alberta 8,310; in Saskatchewan 18,162, and in British Columbia 6,923.

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