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 CIRCULATION  
 "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"  
 "The strongest memory is weaker than  
 the weakest ink."  
 CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, SEPT. 14, 1953

**Insurance Superintendents**

The popular attitude towards insurance of taking out a "policy" on life, against fire, against accident and so forth without very much regard for the exact terms of the contract of indemnity is the reason for being of Superintendents of Insurance and of much legislation in every Province and State. The very human characteristic of being ready to sign anything has resulted in the state making very stringent regulations governing the various forms of insurance.

These regulations, for the most part, are welcomed by the underwriters for their business depends very largely upon maintaining public confidence and without regulation and supervision it would be all too easy for a minority of sharp operators to make the whole business suspect.

The companies, however, operate on a very large scale, interprovincially and internationally, thereby spreading risks very widely but at the same time running into the difficulty of divided jurisdiction. To do business in Prince Edward Island and the State of California from a head office in Montreal means giving consideration to insurance law of the various jurisdictions. Much has been done and continues to be done to promote uniformity of legislation and administration and not least by such conferences as that of the Provincial Superintendents of Insurance who are now meeting in Charlottetown.

**Constitutional Change**

Two distinct committees of the Canadian Bar Association have urged the bar to take the initiative in bringing about a revision of the most important part of Canada's constitution, the British North America Act. If the national organization of Canadian lawyers proceeds with the study and drafting of a comprehensive revision of the constitution, it will be doing an outstanding service to this country and demonstrating again that law is a profession concerned with the public weal as well as with its own private business.

The draft which it may finally approve would have no official standing, of course; it would still have to commend itself to the powers that be. There is a very great advantage, however, in the approach by such a professional body, rather than by politicians who feel in honour bound to press at all times their own particular theories and prejudices rather than the matter-of-fact completion of a job on hand.

With a well thought out draft constitution to begin with there should be a much better chance of reaching agreement on particular points on a political level than if the various opposing interests are required to originate the constitution as a whole. Argument should be thus kept to the point and the danger of having the whole thing shelved by unending discussion of subsidiary points materially reduced.

A constitution is not a matter to be adopted hurriedly, however, for it is presumably intended to be difficult to amend. At the present time Canada can readily have the B.N.A. Act amended but when elaborate machinery for amendment is once set up our constitution becomes relatively rigid.

**Crossroads Of Kings**

Were Communism to come to power in Iran, the Iron Curtain would stretch from the Arctic Ocean to the Arabian Sea, chopping the world in half. Across this high plateau, roamed by mountain nomads and tilled by farmers using methods old in Biblical times, lies the only land bridge left between the Mediterranean and India open to the free world.

One of history's most ancient lands, Iran has seen kings come and go for more than 4,000 years, recalls the National Geographic Society. The mountain kingdom of Elam existed for nearly two millenniums before the Assyrians, who finally overthrew it in the seventh century B.C. Cyrus the Great welded the Medes and Persian peoples into the first empire to embrace most of the lands of modern Iran. He conquered Lydia and Babylon. His son, Cambyses II, overthrew Egypt. Darius and Xerxes continued Persia's power, until it was crushed by Greek sea power and the mighty army of Alexander, marching toward India. The name Iran is both old and new. It is associated with the first

migrating peoples to invade the lands east of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. But for 25 centuries, the kingdoms that followed were called Persia. Only in 1935, by government decision, did Iran return to the name of its most ancient inhabitants.

Bordered by Turkey and Iraq on the west, Russia on the north, and Afghanistan and Pakistan to the east, Iran lies largely on a hot, wind-swept tableland averaging 4,000 feet above sea level. A giant V of snow-capped mountain ranges points toward its northwest corner. Beyond, toward Russia, Iran's most fertile region falls away to the lush tropical shores of the Caspian Sea. In the south and east stretch uninhabited deserts, among the most desolate regions on earth.

Population is hard to pin down in Iran. A United Nations survey, estimated it at 20,000,000 in 1951. At least a sixth are nomadic tribes—Bakhtiari, Kashgai, Kurds, and Lurs, plus lesser groups—that are virtually independent of government control. Iran's chief wealth, and largest industry until a few years ago, was petroleum. Beneath sandy shores and tumbled mountains lies one of the greatest pools of liquid gold known on earth. It has been largely this oil, vital in the modern world, that feeds the strife and uncertain future of the kingdom of Omar Khayyam.

**Blew Some Good**

"News that some Prince Edward Island fishermen gathered around \$300 worth of Irish moss within a few hours following the hurricane, points up the adage that it's an ill wind that doesn't blow somebody good," says the Sydney Post-Record. "It's also a reminder that the same prices paid the Prince Edwardians, also can be had by Cape Bretoners who harvest the free offering of the sea, and for which there is an increasing demand in the growing number of processing uses to which the moss is put.

"It's rarely that a storm comes along with seas heavy enough to tear the Irish moss loose from the rocks in the water and pile it up several feet deep ashore, where it may be gathered easily and in much larger amounts than ordinarily, as happened in Prince Edward Island the other day.

"While sympathizing with the heavy losses of the Annapolis Valley apple growers whose fruit so cruelly was stripped from the orchards, it is good to know that at least a few profited from a storm which brought financial disaster to many more than they. With due acknowledgement to the good fortune coming to gatherers of Irish moss, we can be thankful that the tropical hurricane which swirled across this province Tuesday, was rare visitation to these shores. We can pray it will be a long time before such a disaster strikes again."

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

The big Atlantic Provinces conference gets under way today at Moncton. The Boards of Trade are to be congratulated on bringing it about. Now it is up to those attending to make it a success.

In the big NATO Atlantic manoeuvres this week there will be no Red Fleet and Blue Fleet, the traditional designations of exercising forces. It would be all too easy to confuse reports of practice operations with the real thing.

The second International Lifeboat Race to be staged on the Hudson River since 1939 will be held Sept. 12. Last year an 8-man crew from 6 Norwegian vessels was the winner. Sponsored by the American Seamen's Friend Society, the race attracts wide interest amongst seamen.

The suggestion that Communist China may hold back prisoners-of-war as a means of forcing diplomatic recognition by the United States seems at least improbable. If Red negotiators have learned anything about the American people it should be that gangster methods are the least likely to be successful.

The best of the baseball players, like the best sports everywhere except the umpire's decision as final. Veteran American League umpire Bill McGowan says: "The gripes? Eight out of ten come from some rookies. . . Most of the big fellows never open their mouths."

Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, first president and "liberator" of Czechoslovakia, died this date 1937. He married an American, Charlotte Garrigue, whose name he added to his own, and until her death in 1923 she was an ardent helper in all his work. He worked tirelessly in the nationalist cause and on Nov. 14, 1918 was elected president of the newly-formed republic. In addition to being one of the most respected statesmen in Europe he was a scholar and renowned realistic philosopher.

**To Help Start The Ball Rolling**



**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.

**GRAMMAR & LITERATURE**

Sir,—It is the easiest thing in the world to be misunderstood. When Minor Saxon said that Shakespeare was blissfully ignorant of many grammatical rules he simply implied that it was not until half a century after Shakespeare's death these particular rules were formulated. Shakespeare used these forms when it suited his purpose but he did fast to the higher concepts of art. Shakespeare made no mistake in grammar when he made Macbeth say: "Lay on, Macduff, And damn'd be him that first cries, Hold, enough!"

The point that I have uniformly maintained is this: the only reliable test of good English is usage by the best writers using the English language. What do you discover by applying that test? Well, for one thing, thousands of split infinitives do us no harm. I confine myself today to that other misleading rule: "Never end a sentence with a preposition." I think it was Hooker, the famous pulpit orator, who, in the heat of an eloquent sermon, exclaimed:

"Shall there be a God to swear by, and none to pray to?" When Winston Churchill was confronted with this rule his comment was: "This is the type of arrant pedantry, up with which I shall not put." Here are a few examples from high-ranking periodicals: "Prosecution was hinted at."

"It is the greatest get-rich scheme ever heard of."

"Here is the house we were looking at."

"He was laughed at," etc. etc.

Mr. C. C. Fries, president of the United States National Council of Teachers of English puts it tersely thus: "A preposition is a good word to end a sentence with."

Shakespeare has scores of them. Here are a few: "Ten thousand men that fishes knawed upon."

"The thousand natural shocks That flesh is heir to."

"We are such stuff as dreams are made on."

"Why, then, thou knowest what color jet is of."

**Terrors Of 'Brain-Washing'**

Murray Goldblatt in The Ottawa Citizen

The new flood of stories about United States airmen and soldiers subjected to torture at the hands of their Chinese Communist captors underscores once more the fearful techniques fashioned so skillfully by totalitarian states. A combination of physical and mental bullying—now dubbed "brain-washing"—is often devastating enough to break the spirit of the most dedicated of men.

Confessions obtained in this manner or the parroting of the Communist line produced after such treatment do not warrant strictures against the men under pressure but rather sympathy for the men and open-eyed recognition of the power for evil inherent in methods such as these. Torture of prisoners is not new, particularly in the 20th century. Both the Nazi Gestapo and the Soviet secret police have employed it on a broad scale. The Nazis relied primarily on physical torture or even straight slaughter while the Soviet MVD developed to a fine art the process of endless interrogation intermingled with brutal mistreatment.

Alexander Weissberg, an Austrian Communist scientist who renounced to the Soviet Union to offer his talents in the service of the revolution, describes this process in his book, "Conspiracy Of Silence." Most terrifying was the "conveyor belt" system: a series of interrogations conducted for days on end with only fleeting moments of respite until the victim spilled forth a confession to a weird and imaginary crime. In Weissberg's own case, he contradicted his confession statement so many times that his captors lost confidence in him and left him to languish in prison. But not many were so tough and steel-winded.

Similar testimony to the attack on the human spirit is contained in dozens of accounts such as Jerzy Gliksmann's vivid "Tell The West" and Elinor Lipper's story of imprisonment by both Nazis and Russians.

Sometimes the antics of the interrogators would be funny if they were not so deeply edged in tragedy. Weissberg, for example, tells of one incident when a prisoner was arrested and charged by the Soviet police with catching weapons on behalf of the Germans. He had not the slightest connection with such an act but he could not convince his tireless questioners. Finally, he foisted the guilt on a fellow resident of his town. The police promptly arrested the latter. He in turn pointed an accusing finger at a

erature, over and above its entailed odium, is in great measure a product of the realization of the Good, the True and the Beautiful. In an absolute sense aesthetic formalism defines what forms combine to make up the image of beauty. Under inspiration a nascent inner sense gives genius an impulse to create. The artist to avoid distortion must strike a balance between realism and idealism, between the concrete and the abstract. For confirmation the verdict of the senses is brought before the tribunal of the mind.

It seems obvious that "Ulric" has the philosophical and musical background which enables him to appreciate the essential factors in this discussion. The great arts have their patrons and patronesses and cooperate to gain man's admiration. Music has its St. Cecilia, idealized by Chaucer, Dryden and Pope. Can I wish "Ulric" anything better than the prayer that St. Cecilia may ever lead him on.

In conclusion let me thank my friend, "A Former Teacher," for the armchair he donates me. All his letters were interesting, although he went all-out to lure me into colorful by-paths. Notwithstanding his alluresments I stood firmly training by guns on the object. Now I surely can appreciate a seat.

I am, Sir, etc.  
 MINOR SAXON

third party. On it went until one prisoner in the chain had the genius to lay the blame at the door of a dead person. The wretched farce ceased immediately.

Attempts to undermine the minds of free men are not confined to Iron Curtain lands. In the same general category are the smear techniques employed by Senator McCarthy and the Congressional committee he puts through the hoops, but these methods—however unavailing—bear little resemblance to the terror of the conveyor belt and the concentration camp.

This age has brought with it tremendous advances in efficiency of production and distribution—potential blessings no doubt. But the same penchant for efficiency in totalitarian lands has spawned new and more terrible ways to blot out man's basic freedoms.

**Old Charlottetown**

(And P. E. I.)

**INDUSTRIAL FAIR**

"The strains of the Band of the 82nd Battalion were heard on the streets about eleven o'clock yesterday, and, following the music, a large number of persons were soon assembled at the Drill Shed for the opening of the Queen's County Exhibition of Agriculture and Local Industry. His Honour Lieutenant Governor Hensley, chairman of the Board of Exhibition Commissioners, arrived at 12 o'clock. After an excellent address by the Lieutenant Governor, Chief Justice Palmer was called upon to say a few words, and he delivered a short, vigorous speech, on the subject of the higher cultivation in agriculture.

"The Exhibition was, on the whole, a very good one. A principal feature and a great attraction was the fine display of cloth made by the Tyeon, Mill View and Mill View Cloth Mills. We heard several of our merchants—good judges—admire them very highly, and we hope that ere long these mills will do a good wholesale trade for home consumption. We are assured that no shoddy enters into the composition of these goods.

"The display of photographs was very creditable. Fancy goods were fair, but good. Fruit fine. Mr. Abraham Gill, of Little York, showed a splendid selection of apples, plums, etc., which was ruled out because enclosed in a case with glass top, and not in baskets. Roots and vegetables were excellent. Mr. Butcher showed several suites of first-class furniture. Mr. Stumbles' display of harness was very creditable. Mr. Hobbs exhibited a neat hearse.

"The prize for the best potato digger (judged in action) went to W. C. Smallwood, City; best new iron plough, Wyatt and Burrows, Royalty; best new harrow, John Frowse, Royalty; best horse hoe and moulting plough combined, John Frowse, Royalty; best fan and separator combined (judged in action), Angus Gregor, New Glasgow; best cultivator, Wyatt and Burrows, Royalty; best truck wagon, Wyatt and Burrows; best express wagon, Hewson, McDougall and Seaman, Charlottetown.

—The Examiner, Oct. 9, 1929.

**The Age Old Story**

Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

**Notes By The Way**

"Most of the vitamin content of the potato lies just under the skin." Yet people who would not think of peeling off their vests with their jackets, think little of peeling skin and lining off a helpless potato.—Toronto Star.

As a reducing program for his wife, who weighed 265 pounds, a Los Angeles, Calif., man walked her 2,350 miles across the United States in four months, causing her to lose 110 pounds.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

In Kingston the other day 100 men worked 20 hours to rescue a dog from a crevice. Such an undertaking, although uncommon, spells out the remarkable relationship which exists between humans and their pets.—Fort William Times-Chronicle.

An inventor has just taken out a patent on a rubberized suit with a plexiglas helmet which will permit a farmer to plug into a socket and hoe his turnips in cool comfort. This is all very well, but nothing will ever match the air-conditioning of bare feet and old, worn-in overalls with uncomfiness stem in large part from the scientist's increasing difficulty in communicating his ideas to the layman—or even to fellow scientists in other fields. This is understandable in the face of modern science's enormous complexity and specialization. New and precise languages spring up whenever a new field is opened up.—Ottawa Evening Citizen.

Polio, once thought to be solely a children's disease, is striking at the higher age brackets, says officials of the All-Canada Insurance Federation. Polio, sometimes called infantile paralysis, is now almost as likely to be found in adults as in children, particularly the 24-49 age group. Medical officials say that it is more apt to be fatal to adults than to children. The peak season for the disease is late August and September, but cases have been reported at other times of the year, say medical authorities. Polio does not always bring death or even paralysis.—Oshawa Times-Gazette.

The maintenance of traditions centuries old that is so characteristic of English life is not confined to events that have attained world-wide prominence, but is spread abundantly in town and country throughout the British Isles. Typical of these observances is the annual Horn Dance in the village of Abbots Bromley, in the country of Staffordshire. The origin of this strange ritual is lost in antiquity; but the dance is held early in every September and is one of the oldest of the folk dances of Britain. The Horn Dance begins early in the day. Brown reindeer horns are taken from the village church and are used by the villagers in a dance that continues practically all day. In centuries-old costumes of green jackets, yellow waistcoats laced with red and gold; with green breeches and green stockings, and brown berets, the dancers assemble with the horns in the village Market Square.—Winnipeg Free Press.

The world's first "pollen factory" recently was opened at Vegaholm, near Helsingborg, in the Southmost Swedish province of Skane. The annual production is estimated at about five tons of pollen, which will be turned into vaccines for treating allergic diseases and, also, is expected to be of importance in the food industry, due to its great nutritional value. Pollen, it has been found, contains 30 to 40 per cent albumen, in addition to being rich in amino acids. The annual pollen output is expected to yield a total of 1,300 to 1,750 pounds of inexpensive allergy extracts, which hitherto have been very costly and sold for as high as \$3.50 a gram in the United States.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Mr. Ritchie Calder, chairman of the Association of British Science Writers, in a harsh indictment of scientists has branded them "illiterate, inarticulate and irresponsible." Although Mr. Calder probably indulged in a certain amount of exaggeration purposefully, there is a solid element of truth in his remarks despite extenuating circumstances. The twin charges of illiteracy and inarticulateness stem in large part from the scientist's increasing difficulty in communicating his ideas to the layman—or even to fellow scientists in other fields. This is understandable in the face of modern science's enormous complexity and specialization. New and precise languages spring up whenever a new field is opened up.—Ottawa Evening Citizen.

**The Poet's Corner**

**THE MIDNIGHT WATCH**

We are the children of a stormy sky  
 Who keep a rendezvous with punctual fate,  
 We are the dancers who arrive too late  
 And find the hour of merriment gone by,  
 We are the guests who hear a sudden cry  
 Of warning from the world's unguarded gate  
 And hurry from the feast to stand and wait  
 Upon the wall, and, if need be, to die.

We are the midnight watch who will be gone  
 Before tomorrow breaks; we shall not see,  
 Except in faith, the final victory:  
 We are the link between the dusk and dawn  
 This is our part: to build the barricade  
 Upon foundations other free men laid.

—Myra Ferrings, in the New York Times.

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