

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1950

In A Nutshell

The London "Economist" makes a good point in dealing with those who advocate neutrality for Western Europe. It says, "If strength and unity provide the best chances of peace, those who preach neutrality and mediation are the real warmongers. It is vital to realize how precarious would be Europe's plight if the prophets of neutrality and third-force politics were to have their way. If the Atlantic Pact were rescinded, American troops and interests withdrawn and a "neutral" Germany and a "neutral" Europe left to face alone and unarmed their tete-a-tete with the Soviet Union, every evidence of recent history suggests that their fate would be no different from that of President Benes in a similar situation. The policy of resistance offers a chance, and a good chance, of avoiding war; the policy of appeasement offers none whatever."

Opposition Parties Included

This year the Canadian team selected to go to the fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly will include representatives of Opposition parties. At San Francisco in 1945 and at the first Assembly in 1946 Opposition members were sent as full Canadian delegates. In 1947 they were dropped a notch to be called Parliamentary Advisers. In 1948 and 1949 they were not on the team in any capacity. For this session Messrs. Graydon, Coldwell, Low and one other Progressive Conservative yet to be named, will attend as Parliamentary Advisers.

Canadians, says the Ottawa Journal, will welcome this inclusion of all parties in the delegation to U.N. The idea is not to enable the Opposition delegates to form policy—for which the Government alone is responsible—but to let them be in on the debates and discussions on which policy is based. It gives our voice at the UN a national tone and therefore a greater significance to the ears of foreign delegates. The Opposition representatives will have the opportunity of playing such a helpful and conscientious role on this occasion that their continued representation will be assured.

Heading Canada's delegation to the Assembly, which opens on September 19, will be the Minister of External Affairs, Hon. Mr. Pearson, and in his absence the vice chairman, Hon. Hugues Lapointe, newly appointed Minister of Veterans Affairs who was an alternate delegate to the 1948 session in Paris. The session may well prove to be a momentous one, whether or not Russia decides to attend.

Civil Defence

The problems of civil defence are now coming up for discussion between Provinces and the Federal Government. As in many other matters the principal thing to be feared is fear itself. A panicky civil population would mean loss of defence production, and probably unreasonable pressure on the Government to divert men and material from strategic objects to a pointless home defence.

A smooth-running civil defence organization, rather than an elaborately equipped one is what is needed to give direction to civilians who have their own vital jobs to do, but at the same time wish to "Be Prepared" to deal with any local emergency.

Attacks on the Currency

Counterfeiting on a large scale was resorted to by the Nazis both as a means of financing their own war effort, and for the purpose of undermining sterling and dollar currencies. In the former they succeeded so well, with the aid of genuine notes captured after the fall of France, that Britain was forced to refuse to redeem notes held abroad.

There is no reason to believe that the Communists would be more scrupulous and they certainly have the means of turning out paper money nearly indistinguishable from our own. Speaking of particularly fine counterfeit notes produced by an engraver in Montana, United States District Attorney Drake Watson declared, "After talking with agents on this case, it is my opinion that if the plates had fallen into the hands of some counterfeiting syndicate more interested in quantity production than in quality, his bills could have had a chaotic effect on our monetary system."

The danger from a foreign state is much greater than from any private individual and it is the clearest prudence for this country to have available a new and distinct supply of paper currency so as to be ready on instant notice, to recall all outstanding money, and replace it with a new type before any large amount of forged notes could be put in general circulation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

At any rate there should be no danger of forest or bush fires for some time to come.

The Railway officials were like fish out of water yesterday. They made motions of asserting themselves, but could make no progress.

The New York rain-making authority who holidays in Summerside disclaims doing any work on his vacation, but after the last week one might begin to wonder.

Everyone realizes, but no one seems to be able to do anything about, the fact that every strike must sooner or later be settled and the sooner the better for all concerned.

The American student who for thirty days wore glasses which turned everything upside down and backwards, has now discarded them to look at things as they are. A great many people will wonder why.

Revenues of Canadian air carriers for March were up considerably over a year ago, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It is safe to say that if the railway strike proceeds, air operations will be even more profitable.

American G. I.'s from the deep South managed in the Second World War to actually answer to the name of "Yank" so may submit with some cheerfulness to being called "Gringo". Both terms, oddly enough, are results of attempts of Mexicans to say "English."

Once more this Province was fortunate in escaping the worst of the storm which waged all along the Atlantic coast. The farmers suffered most through the tempestuous rain flattening their grain and soaking the hay which still had to be gathered.

The people particularly "on the spot" yesterday were Prime Minister St. Laurent, head of the Government, Mr. Donald Gordon, head of the C.N.R., Mr. I. J. Mathers, head of the C.P.R., and Messrs. Frank Hall and A. R. Mosher, head of the Railway Unions.

Mr. Noel Parker-Jervis, of Vancouver and Miss Mary Bethune, teacher of English literature in P.W.C., are at present attending the last of a series of three-week courses, arranged by the British Council, on "Shakespeare and the Age of Elizabeth" at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Slemon Park, Summerside, has just completed its first instalment of 150 houses for the Air Force, and now a second instalment of 105 houses is under way. These will constitute practically a new town of 255 dwellings to which a school is about to be added. The site is between St. Eleanor's and Summerside.

Irish Agriculture Minister James Dillon declares "no honest man or woman can be neutral" in the West's struggle against Communism. "People are either for Communists or against them," said Dillon. "To protest neutrality is in reality to help the Communists." Sound words.

Sir William Wallace, Scotland's hero, died this date 1305. Son of Malcolm Wallace of Elderslie, Renfrewshire, he organized the Scots against the English invaders under Edward I. For a time he was very successful, but ultimately was defeated by Edward at Falkirk. He continued desultory warfare against England till taken prisoner by treachery in 1305; he was taken to London where he was executed as a traitor. His achievements have been a favourite theme of Scottish poets, and have been specially celebrated by Henry the Minstrel (known as Blind Harry).

Some people are sound sleepers, but few could equal the experience of a Shelby (N.C.) man who fell asleep between the rails when a train passed over without waking him. The train's crew rushed back, expecting to find a mutilated, lifeless form scattered over the tracks. Instead, they found the man still sleeping, unaware that he had missed being killed by inches. The crew members tried to persuade him to go to a hospital for an examination. The man declined. He said he would go on home and finish his night's sleep.

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.

TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

Sir,—Prince Edward Island has long been famed for the abrupt curves and meandering course of its railway, but, if you wish to view a real feat of engineering skill, you should have a look at the Trans-Canada Highway as it passes by the beautiful village of Crapaud.

Instead of following the old Tryon road through the village, or close by it, to north or south, it is being routed along Laird's Mill-pond, taking in part of the pond—some houses and the old butter-factory will have to be moved at great expense; following along the edge of the road to Victoria until it finally leaves it near the Episcopal Church, when it takes an abrupt turn across the fields and crosses the river just below Hall's Bridge and joins the old highway west of Summerside.

There are already four bridges across this river in little better than the mile between Victoria and Crapaud.

This detour adds considerable length to the Trans-Canada Highway and will entail some extra crews and a very expensive fifth bridge. The right-of-way must be paid for entirely by the Province; we receive no rebate on the cost of subgrading the Tryon road between the points of leaving and joining it, and no useful purpose is being served by this winding, expensive detour.

I am, Sir, etc., TAXPAYER.

Education and Defence

(Ottawa Journal)

It is almost axiomatic that social, economic and military measures are closely interlocked weapons in defending the free world. The Korean hostilities have tended to overemphasize the purely military factor in defence. Major Gen. H. D. Graham, vice-chief of the general staff, restored perspective to the defence framework in his address this week at the annual meeting of the Institute of Public Affairs at Lake Couchiching.

As General Graham pointed out, military defence alone is insufficient. The crisis of our times goes far beyond the mere use of weapons. He suggested that security must be gained through educational as well as military weapons. United Nations forces must be indoctrinated to know and love what they are fighting for. In its wider implications, this statement means that the material welfare of the non-Communist peoples, as well as their spiritual values, must be worth cherishing. Education cannot be successful if offered in a vacuum. It must rest on social realities. If the non-Communist peoples experience only hardship in the present, with no clear prospect of a better deal in the future, attempts at indoctrination in the virtues of democracy become empty words.

Before education can become a more effective weapon in the democratic arsenal, the peoples of Asia, Africa, Western Europe, even North America, must be convinced that a free form of government offers a better future than does a Communist dictatorship. This would have to be done through practical action. It is no mere coincidence that the North Koreans are fanatical fighters, and that at the same time one of the first acts of the North Korean government was to redistribute land to the peasants. The social justice embodied in the more advanced types of welfare legislation in Canada is one such action. President Truman's point four program of technical aid to underdeveloped areas is another. Indoctrination in the value of freedom must be the child of social reform and progress.

NEW DELHI, India, Aug. 22—(AP)—Two Indian Air Force planes took off for Northern Assam tonight to drop rice and other supplies to areas devastated by last week's earthquake and subsequent floods. The planes were the first in a newly-organized air lift.

BOMBAY, Aug. 22—(Reuters)—Socialist and Communist labor federations here have decided to organize a one-day general strike in the city in sympathy with textile workers striking for a bonus. A date for the strike will be fixed soon. Millworkers totalling 95,000 were idle today on the seventh day of the strike and 45 of the city's 62 mills were closed.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

LEGISLATIVE GRANTS

The following items appear among the grants voted by the House of Assembly in 1950:

To the Speaker, the sum of \$60, and to each of the Members the sum of \$30, for their attendance during the session, together with the usual travelling expenses "and a proportionate rate to Members now absent from the Island, for such times as they may attend in their places, after their return."

The sum of \$4, to be paid to Andrew Doyle, of Charlottetown, "for services performed in removing a vessel having small-pox on board, from the wharf at Charlottetown to the Three Rivers."

The sum of \$5, to Eliphalet Allen, of Cape Tormentine, as a remuneration to him for the safe keeping of the mails for several years past.

The sum of \$200 to defray the expense of erecting slips and building protecting blocks and preparing the Charlottetown ferry wharf.

The sum of \$500 "to any person or persons who shall, within two years from this time, by boring or otherwise, discover a bed or seam of coals in this Island, sufficient to supply the inhabitants of this Island with fuel, to the satisfaction of the Government."

The sum of \$200 to B. Hammat Norton, Esq., of Pictou, "provided he will run a steamer between Quebec and Pictou, calling at Charlottetown, Shediac and Miramichi, coming and going, once a fortnight, in accordance with his petition."

The sum of \$8 is 10d. to Hugh Logan, jailor, Georgetown "to remunerate him for loss sustained by him in the escape of a prisoner for debt, in consequence of the insufficient state of the jail yard fence, on condition that he shall no more apply to the House on this subject."

The sum of \$4 10s. to J. P. Oxley, for keeping in repair the Hillsborough ferry pump, for the space of four years and six months.

The sum of \$10 to George Hubbard, in support of the Charlottetown Infant School, taught by him.

The sum of \$100 in aid of supporting lunatics in the Asylum, "provided their friends are unable to support them."

The sum of \$7 10s. to Miss Sarah Harbey, "in aid of the Bog School, kept by her, in Charlottetown."

The sum of \$80 to George Wright, Esq., Surveyor General, "to aid him in the publication of

The Poet's Corner

THE SHEAVES

Where long the shadows of the wind had rolled, Green wheat was yielding to the change designed; And as by some vast magic undivined The world was turning slowly into gold. Like nothing that was ever bought or sold It waited there, the body and the mind; And with a mighty meaning of a kind That tells the more the more it is not told. So in a land where all days are not fair, Fair days went on till on another day A thousand golden sheaves were lying there, Shining and still, but not for long to stay— As if a thousand girls with golden hair Might rise from where they slept and go away. —Edwin Arlington Robinson

The Age-Old Story

The soul of the sluggish drowsiness, and hath nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

VATICAN CITY, Aug. 22—(AP)—Pope Pius, as more than 1,000,000 Roman Catholics have done, will become a pilgrim Saturday to gain the indulgence of the holy year. The Vatican's press office announced today. The Pontiff will visit the patriarchal Basilica of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. He made his pilgrim's visit to St. Peter's Basilica shortly after opening its holy door on Christmas eve. A map of this Island, prepared by him from the recent survey of Captain Bayfield, on condition that he furnish twenty copies of the same for the use of the Government, and that Mr. Wright be allowed to publish his Map under the sanction, or authority, of the Legislature.

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Notes By The Way

It is hinted that cars may have running-boards again in the new models. Some place for the cop to put his foot. —Peterborough Examiner.

A searching statistician now tells us that, pound for pound, beefsteak costs twice as much as automobiles. We suppose it's all right—people can live without beefsteak. —Kingston Whig-Standard.

A heavy defence program is an expensive luxury, but not nearly as expensive as the most expensive luxury of all — war itself. But we must "keep up with the Joneses" in such a race, and this time the 18 men in the Kremlin are setting the fashion. —Edmonton Journal.

It cannot be stressed too emphatically that the value of such collective action cannot be measured solely in terms of the sizes of the various contributions by the different nations. The moral strength involved in the active support of even the smallest country adds to the total effectiveness of opinion against an aggressor. A willingness to support this opinion with sacrifice if need be, but certainly with all resources possible, is the would-be aggressor cannot help but respect. —Sydney Post-Record.

The hoarder loses his head, acting against the public interest and his neighbor's interest and his own long-term interest. He throws monkey-wrenches into the economic machinery, creating artificial scarcities, forcing prices up when there is no need for them to go up, inviting governments to clamp on controls when voluntary self-control would be much less costly, if people would only let it work. In either case, he makes it more difficult to win the war or keep the peace, adds to the cost of victory in lives and money, even jeopardizes victory itself. —Vancouver Province.

What this country needs is a good five-cent chocolate bar that won't fluctuate with the stock market. We knew it couldn't last when the nickel chocolate bar returned to the store counters not so long ago. For a while it was like old times. Flip a five-cent coin out of your pocket and you could be away with a healthy tid-bit of your hand, feeling satisfied you got your money's worth. The costs went up. The producers of a healthy slice off our choicest morsel of their pre-war self, now what has happened? We still got flimsy bars, and for a them, we are paying not 7 or 8 cents, but seven cents. There'll be a lot of kids up in arms against chocolate producers over this. They know it is a lot of to get a nickel out of dad, and a lot of loose change, especially dad is one of those fellows who to use up his pennies in park meters. —Niagara Falls Review.

The great shark fishing boom of the Pacific has come to an end. The skipper of 500 shark boats are punch drunk from sudden end of a boom that twelve years ago the soup-shark was just a nuisance, now into nets, getting into the way of fishermen. Then it was suddenly discovered that the soup-fish was extraordinarily rich in vitamins, a hundred times more potent than cod-liver oil. Fishermen had been happy to get \$20 for a soup-fish shark — to be used as fertilizer. But with the great vitamin discovery the price on soup-fish liver shot up. Livers were about twenty pounds each. The price of soup-fish rose to a ton — then \$500 then \$1,000. With the fall of Norway, big cod-liver oil exporter, early in the war, the price for the soup-shark shot to \$2,000 a ton. Fishermen went shark mad. One Joseph Maderes, operating on Cal, brought in \$20,000 worth of shark in two days. Another owner cleared \$50,000 in one year and each crew member paid income taxes on \$15,000. Recently blunt-nosed boat Sal C pushed way into San Francisco Bay, from Panama waters with 400 pounds of shark livers — the best load ever brought into an American port. But the captain, Angelo Constanzo estimates he'll lose \$7,000 instead of the \$130,000 he would have made at last year's prices. —Chicago Times.

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