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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1951

Parliament's Plain Duty

The Progressive Conservative Opposition's financial critic J. M. Macdonnell, speaking in the House of Commons on the Defence Production Act, has described the powers sought by the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe in the proposed legislation as "almost god-like."

Let it at once be said that Mr. Macdonnell is a man who invariably puts principle before party. He fears, and rightly so, legislation which accords absolute powers to a Minister of the Crown.

At least once within living memory of most Canadians Parliament abrogated its responsibilities in favor of the Government. That was in the midst of World War II.

There are many aspects of the Defence Production Act which deserve close and careful scrutiny. Most serious and disturbing however is the sweeping authority to be conferred upon the Government—authority which, if exercised, would deny the ordinary citizen access to the courts.

The Defence Production Act, let it be remembered, was drafted under the direction of Mr. Howe. Mr. Howe, despite his acknowledged talents in the realm of industry and production, is no student of responsible government.

Parliament's plain duty is to reject the legislation which Mr. Howe has brought down in the House of Commons, and substitute for it measures which will preserve intact, no matter how great the emergency, the principle of the Supremacy of Parliament and the Rule of Law.

Prince Of Wales College

Some popular prejudices with regard to Prince of Wales College are satisfactorily disposed of in the report of the principal, Dr. Frank MacKinnon, which is contained in the general annual report of the Department of Education for the year ending March 30, 1950, tabled recently in the Legislature.

In the first place, the College is not crowded, as is generally supposed. With proper planning, many more students can be accommodated, particularly those who, for various reasons, have felt it necessary to go to schools and junior universities in other Provinces.

The number of students passing with honour standing is very high and the number of failures low for an institution of this kind. 215 out of 598 students, or 36 per cent, passed with certificate or honour standing, 75 out of 598, or 13 per cent, failed to pass, of which the big majority were in First Year.

It is also pointed out that 723 students wrote the entrance examinations in 1949, of which 433 or 60 per cent passed. This compares well with similar examinations elsewhere, particularly when one considers the wide variety of schools from which candidates come and the automatic grading procedure of many of them.

One situation which Dr. MacKinnon regards as serious is indicated in the nature of the enrollment. That is the tremendous registration in the study of science compared with the arts. Of the 115 university

students in the third and fourth year, only 15 were registered in arts, as against 90 in science and 10 in commerce. "I am strongly of the opinion," he states, "that this small attraction in arts has a most unhealthy effect on the educational and professional life of the Province. Prince Edward Island is training very few young people in literature, art, music and other cultural pursuits, and, perhaps, more important, the Province does not appear to encourage the study of economic, historical and political subjects so necessary to the commercial, political, and professional pursuits in modern society.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Fallen power lines near Montague were found to have fused a mixture of clay and sand to produce what resembled a glazed stone. It is not unknown for important industries to have owed their origin to such freakish accidents.

The sixth annual meeting of the Fisheries Council of Canada opens in Ottawa today. Perhaps never since the new world was merely a fishing station and source of furs have greater prospects seemed in view for Canadian fisheries.

Over 7,000,000 bushels of Maine potatoes were dumped before the U. S. Department of Agriculture made decision to convert the 61,000,000 bushels into industrial alcohol. Here our farmers are experiencing difficulty in getting the Government to make it worth their while to ship the surplus to the starch factories.

Complaining that few people attend the meetings of the Common Council of Saint John it has been decided to post at noon the preceding Saturday in the County Court House and the City Hall, the agenda of the meeting to give the public an opportunity to know beforehand what matters would come up for consideration.

It used to be Nova Scotia that advocated Maritime Union with headquarters at Halifax. Now some in New Brunswick Legislature favour it. A Maritime Legislature to speak with a united voice at Ottawa for Canada's four easternmost provinces was advocated by Mr. G. W. Perry, (PC—Carleton). Mr. Perry said a Maritime government would be more economical than the present system of four provincial governments.

David Livingstone, African traveller, was born this date 1813, at Blantyre in Scotland. From the age of ten he worked in a cotton factory, at the same time teaching himself Latin and studying natural history. Later studied medicine at Glasgow and in 1840 was ordained as a missionary by the London Missionary Society.

It is pleasant to be told by Mr. Donald Gordon, President of the C. N. R., that that organization has always met operation expenses since its inauguration. Its financial troubles, of course, are due to having paid "too much for its whistle". In order to have a Government railway in competition with the C. P. R. it got involved in heavy borrowings to pay off the stockholders, etc., and that has been a burden around the C. N. R.'s neck ever since.

Senator Wishart Robertson, Halifax, Government leader in the Senate, is father of a resolution seeking ways and means of Senate reform, which he would now like to withdraw, Senators having had their say. But he can't as it requires unanimous consent to permit withdrawal, and some of the would-be reformers say they insist on a vote. As the Government has a following of 80 to the Opposition's 11, there is no risk of a Government defeat, though Senators on both sides take exception to his proposal that Senators should be compelled to retire at seventy-five. That will be accomplished and a committee will be appointed to make recommendations for reform.

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.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

Sir, — A letter written by a correspondent who is presumably a former Islander has appeared recently in The Guardian, in which the writer claims that there is more money in collecting garbage in Ottawa than in teaching school in Prince Edward Island.

We admit that from a financial standpoint garbage collector has been successful, but we object to him using his surplus garbage to sling at Senators who are having a tough enough time these days keeping their skirts clean.

It is regrettable that the writer is not a public-spirited man, as he claims that he does not belong to either of the official political parties and as, according to his name, he is half Scotch and half Irish, he should be either "for the Government" or "agin' it."

I am, Sir, etc., KING'S COUNTY

THE ARK & MT. ARARAT

Sir, — With reference to an article in your issue of Feb. 14 on Mt. Everest, a few observations for Bible students may be in order. For years the same story has appeared, concerning the Ark being located on Mount Ararat in Armenia. It pops up persistently, but note:

(a) Armenia lies North of Palestine.

(b) Until recently this Mount (singular) Ararat was known as Mount Massis.

(c) The Bible speaks of the Mountains plural of Ararat, meaning a chain of mountains. Gen. 8:4.

(d) The Bible shows clearly the course taken by Noah after leaving the Ark, East to West. Gen. 11:2.

(e) The "Mountains of Ararat" was the ancient name for the high table lands of Thibet.

(f) Thibet is from a Hebrew root used in the Bible for the Ark of Noah.

(g) All Mt. Everest expeditions have failed to penetrate the secret of the heights and will fail until the time arrives to reveal what is preserved there in ice and swirling snow.

I am, Sir, etc., BIBLE STUDENT ALBANY, P. E. I.

SENATE REFORM

Sir, — I notice in The Guardian of March 14th that Senator Grant replied to "Reader's" letter and I read both letters and cannot find any connection between them. Notice in Senator Grant's speech delivered in the Senate on February 13th, he was the last person from his constituency to get a job in the Charlottetown Post Office. This is quite an admission coming from the doctory doctor, and the chairman of the Civil Service Commission must have had something in his mind that he kept to himself, when he refused to make any more appointments from King's County since 1899. Perhaps Senator Grant will explain the reason fully.

Senator Grant explained as follows: "Well, I was a school teacher fifty years ago and in the annual report of the Superintendent of Education, my name was mentioned as one of the six best teachers in the Inspectorate of King's County. Since that time I have not lost the art of making my point of view perfectly clear to my listeners and if 'Reader' has at least the intelligence of a child, all he has to do is to read my speech again and get the information he has evidently overlooked."

Does Senator Grant really think he has answered the question? In no place in his answer or in his speech did he reply to the question put to him.

Now I ask the question, What happened that the Civil Service Commission refused to make any appointments from King's County to the Post Office in Charlottetown since 1899?

I notice a letter by Allan J. Callaghan in answer to Senator Grant's letter regarding teachers' salaries, wherein he states: "When you consider that \$225, would buy as much fifty years ago as \$1,000, would today, the teachers are no better off now than they were in Senator Grant's days. Therefore he has nothing to boast about in regard to past Liberal Governments." This effectively answers the rest of Senator Grant's letter.

I am, Sir, etc., PADDY, St. Patrick's Day.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

PIONEER'S OBITUARY

From the Prince Edward Island Register, May 5, 1898:

"Died at Murray Harbour, on the 27th April last, William Graham, Lot 63. Mr. Graham was a native of Lockerbie, near Dumfries, had spent fifty-four years in this Colony, and departed in his 80th year. Though he did not bring much wealth from his native country, he possessed more solid requisites — a stern integrity that could not brook being in debt, a persevering and conquering industry, sobriety, and prudence to husband the hard earnings of a well applied labour."

"After participating largely in the many privations and difficulties incident to the then infant state of the Colony (not having tasted bread, nor seen the King's coin for six months together, as he himself used to relate), Mr. Graham settled, about thirty years since, on Lot 63, where, with the aid of his two sons, now no more, he cleared and brought in-

The 'Thing': Distinctly Not Wanted



Soviet's Threat To Leave The U.N.

By W. N. Ewer

On February 16th, Moscow Radio, followed by all its subsidiaries, broadcast an interview given by Mr. Stalin to a Pravda correspondent.

In the course of it he said that "the United Nations Organization, created as the bulwark for preserving peace, is being turned into an instrument of war, into a means for unleashing a new world war. In this way, it is burying its moral prestige and dooming itself to disintegration."

Since then, the theme has been repeated and developed. And the theme of the disintegration of U. N. O. is continually linked with the theme that its place as a bulwark of peace is being taken by the World Peace Council — which Pravda announces is now "the most representative organ of all peoples."

The first task of the Council says its report to the recent Berlin "World Peace Congress", is to "expose before world public opinion the disintegration and bankruptcy of U. N. O." If, says a star Soviet radio commentator, Mr. Olushek, "the U. N. does not respond to the representations of the delegation of the World Peace Council, the Soviet Union would have no alternative but to leave the U. N."

It is hard to resist the conclusion that the stage is being set for Soviet withdrawal from Lake Success. Nor is that surprising. The Soviet Union and its satellites have long ceased to take any positive part in the work of any of the U. N. O. organizations. They have remained in order to obstruct and in order to have a forum for their propaganda. But obstruction has been getting more and more difficult as the Assembly has found ways of circumventing the Soviet veto in the Security Council. And there is little propaganda advantage to be had from debates in which Soviet spokesmen so continuously get the worst of the exchanges.

It looks, then, as if the decision has been taken and as if the demands of the World Peace Council are to be made the occasion. What is this curious body which is held up for our admiration as "the most representative organ of all peoples"? The phrase is a revelation of the meaning which Communists attach to the word "representative."

It began with a "Congress of the Partisans of Peace" held in Paris in the spring of 1949. The delegates were invited by a committee. Who appointed the committee has not been revealed. The titles were changed to the World Peace Congress and the World Peace Committee.

The second World Peace Congress was held last November in Warsaw. Again the delegates were all invited. This vast majority were Communists or notorious "fellow travellers." A few genuine pacifists, who were invited either in error or in the hope that they could be deluded, were denounced and derided in hysterical sessions in which the current Soviet slogans were the theme of most of the speeches.

No expense was spared. All the delegates had all their fares and expenses paid. I came from Cambridge to London in the same plane as an Indian delegate. He was a deaf poet who spoke only Malay, so his daughter came as interpreter. His attendance (the value of which is not very obvious) must have cost somebody something not far short of \$3,000.

This costly congress of invited delegates set up the World Peace Council. And, in true Communist style, there is also a "Permanent Bureau" of 12: seven of them Communists, the rest "fellow travellers."

It is this "cadre" of twelve members, entirely Communist dominated, which runs the Council which claims to be "the most representative organ of all peoples". It is, at the bottom, this to cultivation not much less than 100 acres. Owing to severe injures, Mr. Graham was for a long period very lame, and had been blind several years,—but to the very last he was distinguished for cheerfulness, a good old-fashioned hospitality, and a patriotic anxiety for the prosperity of the Colony."

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Notes By The Way

We read that the Prince Albert coat, which most of us can remember, was named for the Prince who later became Edward VII, and not for the Prince Consort. And it was for this same Prince that the Albert watch-chain was named — that ponderous decoration of politician's stomachs, which looked like a plated logging-chain. (Peterborough Examiner.)

To run the business that is the City of Hamilton is going to cost the public considerably more this year. The causes are not obscure — they are identical with those faced by all industrial, all commercial, all government operations. Automatic salary increases; increased wages put into effect through agreements; cost-of-living bonuses; reduction of working hours for employees — to meet these the local homeowner will have to pay an additional four mills on his 1951 bill. (Hamilton Spectator.)

A properly constituted Canadian Coast Guard service would provide greatly improved search-and-rescue facilities for craft in distress in the waters off our shores — whether our own craft or those of our neighbors. It would combine into one organization the many duties now distributed among half a dozen separate Government departments. And, by no means least, it would provide a force, trained on naval lines, which could be absorbed as an invaluable part of the naval service in time of emergency. (Halifax Chronicle-Herald.)

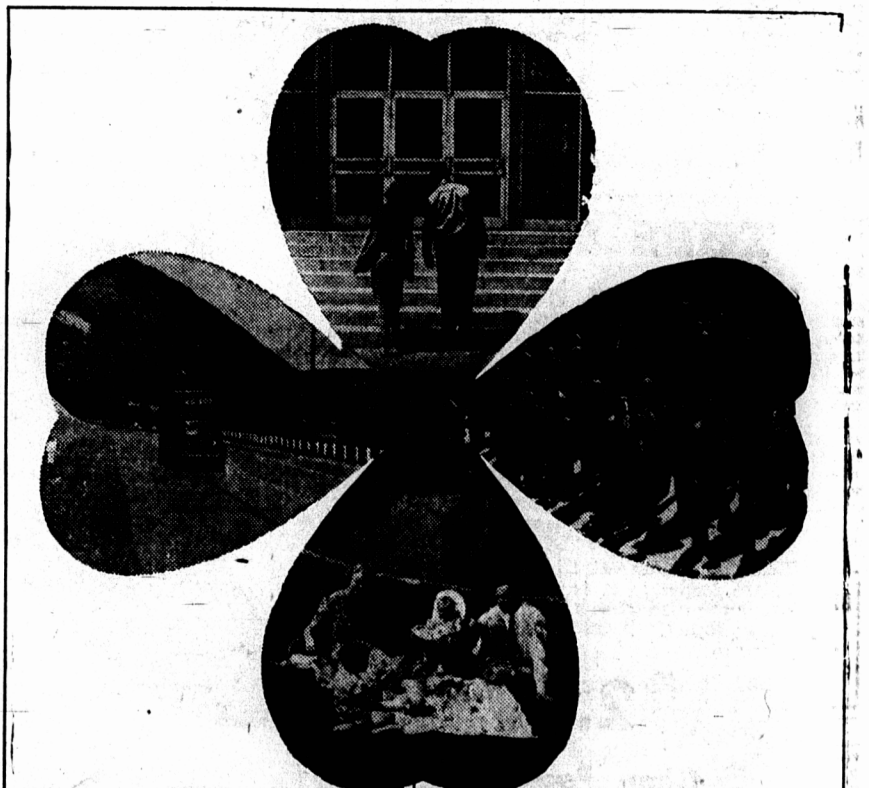
Why baby sitters anyway? In the good old days parents used to take their children with them (and there were usually more children in families then, too) wherever they went. Young children and infants in arms used to go to the old silent movies, to dances and parties almost as frequently as did their parents. Most of them behaved, too, or they were ticked off in no uncertain terms. Sometimes, of course, the kiddies stayed home when mother and father were out galavanting. If they did, an older brother or sister, or a mother-in-law, would be striving for peace can fall to agree with the appeal. And then — "refusal by any government will signify the desire for another war, thirst for new adventures, for blood and destruction."

look after them. But they never called these "watchers" such names as "baby sitters" and they certainly never paid them for their services. As a matter of fact, in the good old days mother and father stayed home about five nights a week. They didn't traipse out every night the way some modern parents do. And, besides, most of them would have been too embarrassed to ask a stranger to look after their children. Anyhow, babies were a much harder crew in those days. (Lethbridge Herald.)

Exhaustive tests by the research department of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario have proved that Sudbury water is abnormally "soft". This means that it is lacking in some chemical contents, particularly calcium — the stuff that coats the inside of hot water tanks and protects them against the corrosive influence of acids in the water. The HEPC intends to continue tests of Sudbury's hot water tanks, and has been experimenting with zinc pellets as a means of combating the corrosion. Sudbury people can draw consolation from the fact that "soft" water is best for swimming and bathing, and that soap lasts much longer because it is so much easier to whip up a lather in soft water. (Sudbury Star.)

The Poet's Corner

NATURE As a fond mother, when the day is o'er, Leads by the hand her little child to bed, Half willing, half reluctant to be led, And leave his broken playthings on the floor, Still gazing at them through the open door, Nor wholly reassured and comforted By promises of others in their stead, Which, though more splendid, may not please him more; So Nature deals with us, and takes away Our playthings one by one, and by the hand Leads us to rest so gently, that we go Scarce knowing if we wish to go or stay, Being too full of sleep to understand How far the unknown transcends the what we know. —H. W. Longfellow



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Somewhere in your community, chances are that invested life insurance dollars are benefiting you by helping to build urgently needed public works. One of these might be a new, well-equipped school, encouraging your boy or girl to be a better student. It might be a modern highway, helping to relieve traffic congestion in your district. Life insurance dollars, invested for the future needs of policyholders, make it possible to build many such roads throughout the nation. Perhaps a new industry has recently moved into your town, creating jobs for many people, maybe for you. If so, it may be one of the industries that life insurance dollars have helped to build or expand. Other life insurance dollars play a part in building power plants, water systems and many other useful projects. Families, too, benefit by these investments, which help make it possible for Canada's 5 million policyholders to enjoy double security — income for later years and protection of loved ones now. Thus life insurance promotes progress and security throughout the nation.

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