

THE GUARDIAN

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The Nelson Touch

One aspect of the Mainguy report on conditions in the Royal Canadian Navy has caused misgivings since its publication. It seemed to imply that the Nelson tradition was being over emphasized and that it could well be played down. Now, none too soon, Defence Minister Claxton has spiked any such suggestion. "There was nothing in the report to justify that assertion. The report referred to a feeling on the part of some officers and men in the navy that there was too much of an attitude that, 'What was good enough for the time of Nelson was good enough for today.'"

Needless to say, Nelson himself would have been the first to make short work of such an attitude. He had no use for ideas that had outlived their usefulness, and scant respect for authority that was not exercised intelligently. The Royal Navy and our own R. C. N. have gained immeasurably by the Nelson tradition of the man on the spot taking action without too much regard for prior orders which did not take into account all the circumstances.

The Navy is more and more being run from behind a desk ashore, but the Nelson tradition is a most valuable antidote to the ineffectiveness in emergency which could be the result.

Fewer Die of TB.

Preliminary figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reveal that Canada's death rate from tuberculosis in 1949—30.4 per 100,000 of population—is the lowest on record. The previous record was 37.0 per 100,000 established in 1948.

The most striking feature is the record low of 15.6 established by the province of Ontario. In 1948 Ontario dropped, for the first time, below the twenties, but this most recent gain is even more spectacular, and would indicate that the methods followed by that province in combating the disease are specially efficient.

Every Province showed a reduction. Prince Edward Island brought its rate to 23.4, a drop of 17 points from the 1948 figure; while Nova Scotia dropped from 38.9 to 28.5, New Brunswick from 45.7 to 27.8, Quebec 58.3 to 48.8, Manitoba from 37 to 28.9. Saskatchewan was down to 21.5, Alberta to 24.2 and British Columbia to 36.4.

Meat Supplies

In 1950 to the end of September Canada slaughtered in inspected packing plants over 73,000 less cattle and 35,000 more calves than in 1949, exported 12,500,000 pounds more dressed beef and veal, and exported nearly 100,000 more cattle and calves of beef type and 7,000 more of dairy type. Inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs is down by 100,000 head; exports of mutton and lamb are down by nearly 1,000,000 pounds, but exports of sheep and lambs are up by over 70,000 head. Inspected hog slaughter is up by 550,000 head, but bacon put into export is down 5,000,000 pounds.

The above figures are quoted from the monthly letter of the Industrial and Development Council of Canadian Meat Packers, which adds:

Translated into terms of meat, there were 87,000,000 pounds more of pork, about 44,000,000 pounds less of beef and veal, and about 3,600,000 pounds less of mutton and lamb available in Canada for domestic consumption in 1950 compared with 1949 from January to the end of September. We exported, net, nearly 11,000,000 pounds more beef and mutton to the U. S. and about 5,000,000 pounds less of bacon to Britain. It would, therefore, appear that the reduction of supplies of beef, veal and mutton meats by a total of about 48,000,000 pounds was compensated for by a net increase in pork supplies of 87,000,000 pounds.

The increased total domestic meat supplies of about 39,000,000 pounds would be something more than sufficient to maintain the supplies of meats on a basis in 1950 equal to 1949. Canada's human population is increasing annually at the rate of about 225,000 persons during the nine months period, January through September. These new mouths to feed would require about 33,000,000 pounds of meat products. The domestic meat supplies, therefore, on a per capita basis of human

population, would be a little more in 1950 than in 1949. The above is a calculation, using the word in the sense of "an estimate of probability." It does not bring into the consideration the fluctuations in domestic slaughter outside of the federally inspected plants. Nor is it more than an approximation of the facts.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Fox Show. Children's Aid Society.

Potatoes and pelts are now being sought in both Charlottetown and Summerside markets.

Nearly 40 of the 56 Canadians who perished in the airplane crash had been sent to Rome as the representatives of their parishes by public subscription.

There seems to have been Indian trouble in the Western part of the Island. The root of it was not fire-water, however, but bingo.

Vienna was recently bathed in strong violet light by a cloud formation acting as a prism—and presumably Viennese could look down on the beautiful violet Danube.

The Girl Guides, under aggressive local leadership, are making great progress throughout the Province. A good deal to strive for—"Every girl a Guide, every boy a Scout."

Not only our eastern farmers, but the Alberta Federation of Agriculture has come out in defense of the Federal Government's freight subsidy on feed grain, and wants it made permanent.

Hundredth anniversary of Britain's public letter-boxes will coincide with the Festival of Britain 1951. They were invented by Anthony Trollope, the Victorian novelist. His pillar-box was first tried out experimentally in the Channel Islands in 1851.

This Province's exhibits in pigs and Jerseys sweep the boards as prize-winners at Toronto Winter Fair. Perhaps if we had exhibits of potatoes there they would have repeated the success attained at Amherst.

Mary Queen of Scots, after a hectic lifetime in France, Scotland and England, was executed by the English Government at Fotheringay Castle, this date 1587. Mary met her fate with unshaken fortitude in her forty-fifth year.

There is no question but that a support price for this year's potato crop is wanted by the farmer and necessary to maintain a high level of prosperity for this Province. On a long term basis, however, supporters of the policy are few.

American toilet goods interests are seeking substitutes for industrial alcohol because emergency conditions would intensify an already existing scarcity. In case of a serious shortage a supply of "surplus" potatoes would become a decided asset.

Just when once more the man-in-the-street in the Old Country began to find austerity being brightened by a freeing of supplies along comes a "World Plan for Mutual Aid" which means that he must sacrifice to help raise from poverty millions of people in Asia, Africa and elsewhere.

The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company has started a six months' tour of North America. The tour includes two weeks in Toronto and will be the first visit of the company to Canada since 1935. In Toronto the Company will play The Mikado, The Gondoliers, Cox and Box and H. M. S. Pinafore, Trial by Jury, The Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe and Patience.

Several units of the First Canadian Army claim the honor of being the first to have troops operating on German soil in the Second World War but members of Le Regiment de la Chaudiere assert that they were the first Canadian regiment to operate as an "entire unit" inside Germany. First news of the "Chauds" being in Germany was given to Canadian war correspondents on November 21, 1944. The only French-speaking infantry unit in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, it occupied slit trenches in Germany in the area east of Nijmegen, reputedly in the van of the Canadian Army then building up for the Battle of the Rhine. The regiment can trace its origin back to the French regime in Canada when, prior to 1759, it was known as Le Seigneur Thomas-Pierre-Joseph Taschereau's private militia. German troops who met the "Chauds" in combat will remember them best for their love of cold steel, bayonets and knives

No Problem Here



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.

NO MORE LARRIE GORMANS

Sir—I have been interested, for some time, in reading the letters appearing in your paper from Mr. J. A. Gillies, including the one in your issue of Nov. 13 with the song entitled "Prince Edward Isle Adieu!" The author of this song is none other than Larrie Gorman, who lived at that time somewhere in Lot 7. He was very well known around the western part of this Island. He later went over to the State of Maine, and that is as much as I know about his movements. He composed a lot of pieces, including the above mentioned one. I understand that his compositions are available in book form. This one, as Mr. Gillies states, may not be a masterpiece but it did portray a condition existing on our Island at that time; and after our forefathers struggled and finally overcame these abuses, there was a short period of prosperity and contentment. But such prosperity and contentment was short lived. Today the present generation find that they are again under the domination of absentee control, and to intensify matters we have no more Larrie Gormans to tell us so. I am, Sir, etc., W. B. MCLELLAN. Alma, Nov. 15.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) ST. ELEANOR'S CHURCH

"A frame of a church 48 feet in length by 30 in width, and sufficiently high to admit of side galleries, with a handsome tower of sixty feet in height was raised at St. Eleanor's, in Richmond Parish, last week. The building is already partly boarded up, and there is every prospect of its being covered in by the middle of July next.

"Great praise is due to the inhabitants of this part of the Island for their efforts in securing to themselves the privileges of having a Clergyman of the Established Church situated among them; and the bounty of the Society for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts cannot but merit the gratitude of every well-wisher to the prosperity of the Island. It is to be hoped that the example of the inhabitants of St. David's and Richmond Parishes will stimulate their fellow Islanders to similar exertions, and that the village spire will yet be seen peeping above the surrounding woods in many of the Parishes of Prince Edward Island. This is the first building exclusively appropriated to the use of the Established Church erected in the Island." —Prince Edward Island Registrar, May 6, 1825.

The Age-Old Story

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

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Puerto Rico's Nationalists

(The Telegraph-Journal) Puerto Rico's Nationalists, two of whom tried to murder President Truman, are seeking complete independence from the United States. If members of this stupid and violent group attained their political goal, it would serve them right, but would be hard on their calmer and wiser countrymen. The Little West Indian Island has an area roughly equal to that of Northumberland County, N.B., but a population of more than 2,000,000. It is thus one of the most overcrowded spots on earth. Until 1898, when the U.S. liberated Puerto Rico from Spain, the people lived in virtual slavery under Spanish overlords. Smallpox and other diseases were rampant among them and even the larger centres lacked sanitation. Tremendous improvements were brought about by the United States, which introduced health services, compulsory free education, and economic reforms. Under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Industrial Development Company was organized by the U.S. to promote Puerto Rican industrial development, and hydro-electric projects were undertaken to provide power. An act of congress in 1917 made Puerto Ricans citizens of the United States, and granted the island its own legislature, with the reservation that the governor was to be appointed by the president of the U.S. Since 1947 Puerto Ricans have had the right to elect their own governor. In all, the United States has spent tens of millions of dollars in an endeavor to raise Puerto Rican living standards, but these have remained low because of the small dependency, in spite of the fertility of its soil, is incapable of supporting 2,000,000. Although there has been a boom in sugar—the principal crop—current Puerto Rican wages are five dollars a week for a farm laborer, and twelve dollars for a factory worker. Besides that, the nature of agriculture tends to perpetuate large estates and a certain amount of feudalism. Apparently, the nationalist movement stems, apparently, from discontent about the fact that the bulk of the wealth remains in the hands of a relatively few. Then, too Puerto

The Poet's Corner

BLACK AND WHITE SHUFFLE Sev'n skunks lumbering in a row, Taggin' mama, proud and slow, Bushy tails all dipped in white, Shoulder straps like cops at night, Go on skunks, and shuffle yo' shoes, I've sure got dem black-white blues. Walking pert in broad daylight, Blocking traffic shore ain't right, You all am divine surprise, Hold up, Tiger, close dem eyes! Go on skunks and shuffle yo' shoes, I've sure got dem black-white blues. Seven l'l babies, watch em' go! One, three seven form a row, Hold you' temper, watch you' tail, I ain't gwine to cross you' trail, Go on skunks and shuffle yo' shoes, I've sure got dem black-white blues. —Harry Elmore Hurd.

SEUL, Korea, Nov. 16 — (Reuters) — The people of Seoul, war-shattered South Korean capital, went crazy with joy today to welcome the first streetcars to clatter through the muddy streets since the city's liberation seven weeks ago. Cheering and flag-waving throngs lined up at the stops. Ricans claim that their "Spanish appearance" sets them apart from mainlanders and results in them being treated like "second-class citizens." But if the United States suddenly decided to cut Puerto Rico free, and let it struggle toward its own salvation, as the handful of extreme Nationalists wish, that overcrowded dot in the Caribbean would be plunged into deep distress.

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Notes By The Way

Peoples who come here from other lands are made welcome so long as they conduct themselves as good citizens should. There is a place in Canada for them. But not if they bring with them the spites and feuds and antagonisms, the "ideologies" and "fierce nationalisms" of Europe. If they desire to become good Canadians, then let them not seek to transplant their customs and languages and nationalities into their new home. Let them retain what is best in their native culture and skills, by all means, but let them leave their nationalities and their Old World antagonisms in the lands from whence they come. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Six beavers holding up work on the Trans-Canada Highway between Britt and Sudbury, are apparently winning their battle with the construction crew. The beavers built a dam that forced the animals away and dynamited the dam. That same night, the beavers repaired the damage. Again the dam was destroyed and that night the beavers got only rebuilt it but as a precaution erected two other dams farther down the river. At latest reports the beavers have the edge in the battle for the longer nights give them more time to make the repairs. If men were as determined as beaver in preserving the balance of nature, conservation would present no problem. —From Ottawa Citizen.

The average Canadian probably makes little use of the short wave band on his radio but one can well imagine what a howl he would raise if he were ordered to have it removed. But that possibility doesn't bother authorities, or rather the authority, behind the iron curtain. In order to prevent foreign news seeping in over the air, radio owners in Hungary recently were advised by their government that the post office would be glad to remove short wave bands free of charge. As a sort of postscript it added that unless specifically requested otherwise it would be assumed that citizens were willing and out the band would come. As the New York Times Vienna correspondent put it, "It is technically possible but politically dangerous to refuse the

offer." Not content with merely removing the band, the Hungarian government must mix in a little feeble propaganda. The emasculation of the radio sets, it was explained, followed the receipt of thousands of letters by the post office and government-controlled newspapers from citizens who said, "they wanted to protect themselves against demoralizing foreign propaganda." That's pretty good confirmation that nobody behind the iron curtain trusts anyone, not even himself. —From Financial Post.

Ironically, Prince Edward Island is being bedevilled by foxes. The same animal that made so much money for farmers in the island province a few short years ago is now costing them money. Foxes are doing so much damage to poultry flocks that the PEI government has placed a bounty on their heads. New Brunswick is having the same problem, although as yet the fox hasn't joined the pine on the bounty list. When the value of wild red-fox pelts declined a couple of dollars or so, trappers lost interest in them. As a result, the foxes multiplied. The noticeable increase in the fox population is the chief reason blamed for last year's slump in the kill of ruffed grouse, or partridge, by hunters. The foxes got them first. Meanwhile the market price of the elite silver fox—originally worth thousands of dollars a pair—has dropped away down. —Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

The story about Snow White, the fierce little cow from the village of Ferona in eastern North Ontario is intriguing. Snow White once chased a full-grown bear out of a farm field. For three years she ran wild in the bush. She was so savage as a yearling, her horns were sawed off. When her last owner tried to fatten her for market, "she charged around the fields like a roaring lion," he said. However, the other day, five men, with the help of a blindfold and two lassoes, loaded her into a truck and sent her on her way to the stockyard for beef. The intriguing feature belongs to the sequel. We would like to be around the house to hear the language used by father when he starts to carve the roast which was once a part of Snow White. —For William Times-Journal.

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