

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1950

A Memorable Anniversary

Saint Patrick's day this year is being celebrated as the 125th anniversary of the Benevolent Irish Society of Prince Edward Island.

Established in Charlottetown in April, 1825, the Benevolent Irish Society is one of the oldest Societies in Canada.

It was not until the arrival of Col. John Ready in 1824, as Lieutenant Governor of the colony, that their high resolves blossomed into united action.

The objects of this society were of a threefold character; the relief of the poor of all creeds and races, the perpetuation of Irish national sentiment, and the performance of works of benevolence.

The most important work of the Society, for many years, has been of a charitable nature, and no worthy cause has ever been overlooked by this grand old organization.

Marketing Problems

The world today has become so accustomed to encountering currency difficulties in the way of trade expansion that there is danger of coming to regard monetary exchange as the most important or even the sole problem to be overcome.

Whether a "community" abattoir could be run efficiently enough to be both profitable and to uphold the reputation of Prince Edward Island products is open to question.

Freight Rates Increase

The Ottawa Journal professes astonishment that "out in the Western provinces and down in the Maritimes a cry goes up against the latest increase of freight rates for our railways.

New Potato Planter

Simplicity and economy are the chief characteristics of a new British 3-row potato planter which will plant up to 16 acres in an 8-hour day.

5-inch faces and free wheel hubs for turning the machine in its own length. Up to 600 lbs. of seed can be loaded into the hopper and the planter is steel throughout with no castings.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Twenty-four days till Easter.

The Feast of St. Patrick, Ireland's Patron Saint.

"Young Paddy Barry" repeated at the Prince Edward.

Summerside has got ahead of Charlottetown in progress in the development of its Federal Building project.

It is rumored that things are not running too smoothly behind the scenes in Provincial Government circles.

St. Patrick's Day—its light hearted festivities stand out all the more gaily for its setting in the more or less sombre Lenten season.

"It's simply good business for Central Canadians to eat more fish," pointed out Federal Deputy Minister of Fisheries Stewart Bates.

It is remarkable that no sooner does Prince Edward Island find a profitable market for its turnip crop in Ontario than somebody or other at Ottawa discovers a microbe or maggot which never hitherto interfered with exports to the U. S. A. market.

A Michigan University professor has determined that outboard motors do not "scare the fish." His findings should do much to improve the temper of fishermen who are inclined to react to that kind of disturbance even though the fish don't.

An exchange refers to science as having taken the romance out of weather forecasting. It has, indeed, if establishing weather stations within the Arctic Circle, maintaining weather ships on the seven seas and sending aircraft into hurricanes to plot the movement of their core can be so described.

Senator David, Quebec, advocates a world government to oppose and destroy the threat of Communism. If such a government were based on that of the Provincial Government of Quebec, it would be a dictatorship, and minorities would be as well off as they are in Russia or Spain.

The Budget Speech was another reminder that many grants from Ottawa to the Province must be matched by Provincial expenditures. It is always a question just how much bounty we can afford to accept, apart altogether from any question of where the Federal Government is to get the money.

British parents of Canadian and American housewives who were war brides are to be offered a round trip at half price to visit their daughters and their families. It is one of the hardships of these times that post-war conditions in the Old Country should have made such visits very nearly impossible.

In Saint John a special agreement (which should be of interest to our Water Commissioners in view of the proposed extension of boundaries) to clarify the practice of Wartime Housing Limited—now included in Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation—collecting water rates from tenants was approved by the Common Council on recommendation of the water assessment department.

Keeping up with the "Hearties", etc., Chatham News remarks: "At times you hear warnings about the danger of any but the mildest kind of physical exercise for the persons advanced in years. Great care must be taken, one is told, not to put a strain upon the heart. Still we find that a well-known London surgeon, an authority on physical culture, has come forward as a champion of muscular exercises for old persons. His advice is "Don't be afraid of your hearts. They will stand more diseases than any other organ in your body."

The Poets Corner

THE SHANDON BELLS

With deep affection, And recollection, I offer think of The Shandon bells, Whose sounds so wild would, In the days of childhood, Fling round my cradle, Their magic spells.

On this I ponder, Where'er I wander, And thus grow fonder, Sweet Cork, of thee; With thy bells of Shandon, That sound so grand on The pleasant waters Of the River Lee.

I've heard bells chiming Full many a clime in, Tolling sublime in Cathedral shrine, While at a glib rate Brass tongues would vibrate— But all the music Spoke naught like thine;

For memory, dwelling On each proud swelling Of the belfry knolling Its bold notes free, Made the bells of Shandon Sound far more grand on The pleasant waters Of the River Lee.

I've heard bells tolling O'er Adrian's Mole in, Their thunder rolling From the Vatican, And cymbals glorious Swinging uproarious In the glorious turret Of Notre Dame;

But thy sounds were sweeter Than the dome of Peter Flings o'er the Tiber Pealing solemnly; Of the bells of Shandon Sound far more grand on The pleasant waters Of the River Lee.

There's a bell in Moscow, While in tower in kloof O In Saint Sophia The Turkman gets; And loud in air Calls men to prayer, Even the tapering summits Of tall minarets.

Such empty phantom I freely grant them; But there's an anthem More dear to me— This the bells of Shandon That sound so grand on The pleasant waters Of the River Lee.

—Father Prout (Francis Sylvester Mahony) 1804-1866.)

Unrest Behind The Iron Curtain

The sentences on Saunders and Vogel in the Budapest "spy Trial," the Hungarian notes to London and Washington which followed the trial, the speech a few days later of President Gottwald of Czechoslovakia, all have one meaning: The Soviet Government's drive to force a complete rupture of every relationship between the East-European satellite states and the Western world is being intensified.

Notice has in effect been served upon all "western" private citizens that to live or work in "people's democracy" is to be liable at any moment not merely to deportation but to a long term of imprisonment. Only the staffs of diplomatic missions will now be safe. Suggestions are already being made that their numbers should be reduced. At the same time the work of the missions is being made almost impossible. Ambassadors and Ministers are treated with studied discourtesy, their staffs are restricted in their movements, followed by spies, agents, eavesdroppers are tapped. Little official business can be done for contacts are rare and delay interminable. The clear purpose is to make the whole situation of the Missions so absurd and intolerable that the Western powers will withdraw them—as the U.S.A. already has in the case of Bulgaria. And, so long as they remain, they will be more and more isolated.

At the same time, the citizens of the "people's democracies" are being warned that any contact with foreigners is dangerous. Any business connection can bring a charge of connivance at economic espionage, for which the penalty may be death. Any personal acquaintance, any personal correspondence, even an interest in western affairs or western culture is sufficient to bring suspicion. And it is dangerous to be even mildly suspect.

There also exist intense propaganda attempts to stir up prejudice and even blind hatred of everything western. President Gottwald's speech is significant. The Czechoslovak people are told (though they may not of course believe it) that their country is full of "spies, diversions, terrorists, murderers, robbers and similar outcasts" who have been "sent from abroad" to sabotage reconstruction and prepare for a new "imperialist war." Clearly the Czechs are invited to look for these "human dregs" not only among the few foreigners who remain but among those of their own countrymen who lived, worked and fought in the west during the war.

This anti-western campaign is not new. But it has now reached a new level of intensity. Why? The main purpose is, of course, to isolate the satellite states from every kind of western influence so as to make them more and more subject to Russian influences and Russian control. They are to be "dewesternized" in order that they may be "Russianized." That is obvious enough, but it does not account for the almost hysterical level of the present campaign.

The 17th of March!

St. Patrick's Day



The Age-Old Story

For confusion they shall rejoice in their portions; therefore in their land they shall possess the double; everlasting joy shall be unto them. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God.

Old Charlottetown

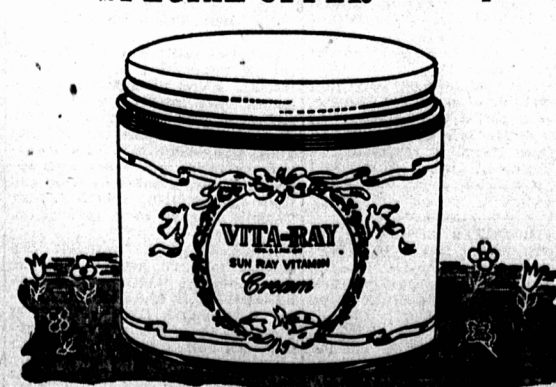
"We were last week presented with the gratifying and unwonted spectacle of the doors of the Gaol standing wide open, in consequence of there not being a prisoner of any description confined within its gloomy walls. We will be readily believed when we say that we beheld this sight with feelings of a very pleasurable kind— not a single prisoner in a population of 30,000, was realizing in part our ideas of the golden age, and while contemplating the pleasing picture we could not help exclaiming with the Roman patriot, 'Esto Perpetua.'"

Foreign Ministers To Meet This Spring

Although no definite arrangements have been made it is now taken for granted that the American, British and French Foreign Ministers will meet during the next few weeks—probably in London, in April. The meeting has no implication of urgency or anything in the nature of a crisis. Nor is it to be called to discuss any particular problem or take any special decision. Such meetings are indeed likely to be periodic. This informal council of three has in a way taken over the functions of the Council of Foreign Ministers, it has a double purpose. First of all it is a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the three Governments which are now jointly responsible for Western Germany. Secondly, it gives an opportunity for informal discussion and exchange of views on all other questions of common concern to the "world powers" of the Western system.

The meeting in Paris, in November, was devoted almost entirely to German problems; and it was then decided in principle to hold another meeting in the Spring, also with Germany as the chief subject for discussion. But, since November, there have been other developments which may require a considerable modification of the expected agenda. During these months there has come about a fundamental change in the international structure of the world. The Soviet Union and its associates have withdrawn from all participation in the organs of the United Nations. That may only be temporary. The immediate reason for it is unwillingness to take part in any work or any organization with representatives of the Chinese Nationalist Government. But there are some indications that it is intended to be a prelude to permanent withdrawal. And—permanent or temporary—Soviet secession is a fact. It means that at the present time the United Nations Organization has ceased to be of any use for settlement, or even discussion of any matters at issue between the "Soviet camp" and the West. In-

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A way to re-create beauty in your own skin. A remarkable all-purpose face cream which supplies both Vitamin A and D to your skin. Stimulates skin cells to new activity and makes your skin healthier, younger and lovelier looking.

Notes By The Way

A sage describes farming as "90 per cent agricultural and 10 per cent patching up something that has busted." Farm legislation is like that.—Detroit News.

A Detroit paper accuses the Canadian city of Chatham of showing four different houses as the one in which John Brown sheltered runaway slaves before the American Civil War. This shows civic enterprise. We understand that Chatham is also going to open a branch of that other local tourist-squeezer, Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Peterborough Examiner.

A civilization which looks golden to those brought up in it may look brassy to some on the outside. Americans who think of their nation as an epitome of idealism forget that it is symbolized to millions in other lands by juke-box jive, gangster movies, and boorish tourists.—Christian Science Monitor.

As educational costs have increased, the provincial grant to Toronto has been embarrassingly reduced. In 1948, when expenditures amounted to \$15,361,352, the grant was \$3,419,294; last year's expenditures were \$16,840,638, the grant \$3,282,700; this year, with an increased budget of nearly \$2,000,000, the provincial government produces a system which cuts off \$263,000 from the grant.—Toronto Telegram.

It is against this background that the three foreign ministers have to consider world problems. Public opinion has been stirred by their sudden realization that all efforts to reach agreement with Russia, the control of atomic energy has been suspended. Public men rather vaguely call for some "new approach." But that is only one part of a far wider problem. It is most true to say that there is at the moment neither opportunity nor machinery for reaching an agreement about anything, either with the Soviet Union or with a member of its group.

And that sombre fact is bound to condition all discussion on international problems—whether be atomic bombs or Germany, the defences of Western Europe, pacifying South East Asia, or of the complex world economics.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Grid of professional advertisements including: A. Walthen Gaudet, L.L.B. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.); Dr. A. L. MacIsaac (Dentist); M. Alban Farmer (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.); Chas. R. McQuaid (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.); J. S. Taylob (Optometrist); John P. Nicholson, L.L.B. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.); Joseph R. MacMillan, L.L.B. (Barrister, Solicitor, etc.); Dr. W. R. Carson (Chiropractor); H. R. Doane & Co. (Chartered Accountants).