

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,765 Retail Trading Zone 5,451 All Others 426 Total Net Paid 13,948 Editor and Managing Director, J. M. Burnett Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink" CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 1951

"Himmelfahrt Kommandos"

The paradox of General Eisenhower's task in building up the defences of Western Europe lies in the disinclination of the most military-minded of European peoples to serve in the forces of the North Atlantic alliance. Those people are the Germans. Surveys conducted recently by the Bonn Government suggest that not more than 5 per cent of West Germany's fighting-age men would volunteer for service in a western army. Less than 10 per cent would serve even if conscripted. Prospective candidates for service in German units in the proposed western defence force are referred to by people and press alike as "Himmelfahrt Kommandos". In other words, "legions headed for heaven."

As recently as last August, west German public opinion was disposed to favor participation of Germany in the defence armies of the Atlantic Pact countries. The question, therefore, is to discover the cause for their more recent attitude, which reflects a desire to achieve a position of neutrality in the struggle between east and west.

Impetus to the "neutralist" movement is found in a small group of Germans who follow the leadership of Pastor Martin Niemöller. Pastor Niemöller, it will be recalled, was a constant critic of the Hitler regime, and for his outspoken conduct found himself finally in a Nazi concentration camp. He was a U-boat commander in World War I.

Niemöller has made no secret of what he wants for Germany. He has consistently demanded withdrawal of all foreign occupation powers from the country and their replacement by a neutral occupation force of the United Nations. He is supported by Professor Noack of the University of Wuerzburg, who has achieved considerable prominence of late because of his demand for the removal of "outsiders" from Germany and the sealing off of the entire country as a "peace zone" in which free elections may be held.

Germany's chances of neutrality do not seem overly bright. Her position is not unlike that of Poland in 1939. She is caught in the squeeze between the two giant forces of the post-war era and, if war breaks out, is likely to become the principal battleground.

Happily, the sense of unreality reflected in Pastor Niemöller's utterances is not apparent in the Bonn Government. As one member of Chancellor Adenauer's government puts it, "The bombs are going to fall on us no matter what we do. At least we must have the moral decency to choose the side of right and fight for it."

Traffic Lights And Meters

The increasing congestion of traffic in the mid-town area has made parking and traffic control measures matters of pressing importance to this City. The streets committee has done much in the way of providing parking space and also in cutting away busy corners so that traffic may move more freely.

Because parking meters are self-liquidating and may even return a profit, this particular means of sharing the available parking space readily commends itself to the responsible authorities.

It is otherwise with traffic lights. In the civic accounts they will show only on the expense side of the ledger. Their value in facilitating traffic and reducing the hazards to life and property must clearly warrant the expense of installation and maintenance.

There is little doubt but that some, at least, are needed in Charlottetown. The busy corners frequently present the spectacle of a traffic jam and it is almost always a nerve-racking business to cross some of the intersections hoping, rather than knowing, that the opening in cross traffic is sufficient.

Keep These Separate

The Financial Post makes a strong point in arguing that the people taking the census this year should not be asked to make a national registration at the same time. The reason cited is that these two jobs simply do not mix. "No information obtained by the census with respect to any individual citizen," says the Post, "should ever be passed on by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in the form of personal information about that individual, to any

other government department, under any circumstances whatsoever. It should not report on men or women of a certain age or a certain skill to some potential conscription agent, either for the military forces or war factories.

"If the census people ever depart from the sound and fundamental principle of keeping the source of their information strictly confidential, then their usefulness is weakened. National registration is a special operation for a special purpose and if we ever have to have it again, then let a special force conduct it."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Relief of Kimberley this date 1900. In the South Africa War Kimberley was besieged by the Boers on Oct. 15, 1899, and was not relieved by the British till Feb. 15, 1900.

Canada's mayors are holding their meetings in Montreal, a city more convenient for the purpose, perhaps, than admirable as demonstrating how a municipality should be administered.

Prime Minister Attlee and General MacArthur approach the matter from altogether different angles but seem to agree that there is nothing to be gained by trying to push the enemy out of North Korea.

It is always dangerous to count on anything to do with the weather but so far, at least, road conditions have been far better than old timers would ever have believed possible for an Island winter.

The first Canadian-produced play to invade Broadway, "Ti-Coq," folded with great suddenness. Perhaps Ottawa sending H. M. C. S. Ontario on an extended cruise of the South Pacific will inspire something more to the critics' taste.

The conductor of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra states that with one hour a day in the classroom he can cut juvenile delinquency by 90 per cent. Music hath charms, he believes, to soothe the young savages' breast.

Senator Grant in his maiden speech in the Senate not unnaturally declared himself in favour of appointed rather than elected Senators. He also felt convinced that as the outcome of the present world crisis, right would prevail over the powers of darkness.

We'll soon know for sure whether potato assessments are fattening or the reverse. Meantime our markets are at stake. Promises or probabilities do not put cash in the producers' pockets. It is the realization on actual sales that count, and that implies salesmanship.

According to the Sullivan Jury verdict at Ottawa, a man may be beat up with sixty wounds on his body, yet could die a natural death from convulsions brought on by brain haemorrhage, independent of his body wounds.

As will be noted from an advertisement in today's issue, the Potato Marketing Board has repealed the order of Nov. 6 last providing for a levy on potato dealers of 1 cent per 100 lbs., subject to the payment of the full amount of the charge accruing on potatoes shipped or marketed up to February 14. The levy still applies to producers and every dealer must act as an agent for the Board in collecting the levy from the producers whose potatoes he ships or exports.

Several British clothing manufacturers are endeavouring to counter the stratospheric rise in the price of wool. At the British Industries Fair rainwear combining wool with 40 per cent rayon will be shown for the first time. Report has it that British fashion lines will be slim and uncomplicated this year, due to the shortage of wool.

Bingo and other games of chance, which weekly attracted thousands of persons to halls and basements of many Roman Catholic churches in Montreal, have been forbidden by Archbishop Paul Emile Leger. The ban was imposed in a pastoral letter sent all members of the clergy in the archdiocese and was effective as of Ash Wednesday. His Excellency said these games destroyed the real spirit of charity because the money was given in the hope of being able to gain more and not for a supernatural motive, and not to help the poor and needy. Increasing popularity of bazaars had been creating a serious problem to Christian conscience for some time, he said. "The church is not a financial organization and much less a school for games." Msgr. Leger said: "The crowds who assemble in basements, very often at the time the evening prayer should be recited, do not go there to praise God."

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.

MERCHANT NAVY TRAINING

Sir,—Today there is docked in Vancouver a United States Merchant Navy training ship operating on the West Coast. Several similar ships, training the future personnel of the American Merchant Marine, are on the Atlantic seaboard. I have before me a large poster from the British Admiralty setting forth the training Britain is giving her Merchant Navy men. It includes convoy work, radar, defence against submarines and mines, damage control, fire fighting, as well as general, surface and anti-aircraft gunnery. This Association has drawn the American and British programs to the attention of the Government and is urging for a similar training program in Canada, but we are meeting with no response. In the last war, we went aboard ships within hours after signing up to serve for the duration of the war. Hundreds of Canadians were needlessly killed because they had not a minute's instruction in how to combat the enemy or save their lives when attacked. This needless sacrifice of Canadian lives will again happen if another war breaks out. Further, there is still no adequate pension or hospitalization legislation for the men of our merchant service who are even now sailing on Canadian ships to Korea. This Association will again be bringing these matters to the attention of the Government at the present session. We urge the support of all concerned when our delegation arrives in Ottawa. We are, Sir, etc. CANADIAN MERCHANT NAVY VETERANS ASSOCIATION A. J. Heide, Secretary. Toronto, Ont.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "LILIA"

In time the strong and stately turrets fall, In time the rose and silver lilies die, In time the monarchs captives are and thrall, In time the sea and rivers are made dry; The hardest flint in time doth melt amiser; Still living fame in time doth fade away; The mountains proud we see in time come under; And earth, for age, we see in time decay; The sun in time forgets for to retire; From out the east where he was wont to rise; The basest thoughts we see in time aspire, And greedy minds in time do wealth despise. Thus all, sweet Fair, in time must have an end, Except thy beauty, virtues, and thy friend. —Giles Fletcher (1549-1611).

Old Charlottetown

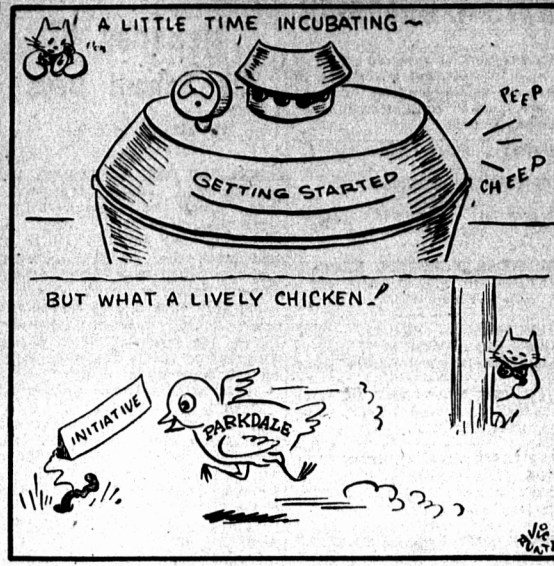
(And P. E. I.)

REWARD FOR DESERTERS

The following notice appeared in the Prince Edward Island Register of Sept. 18, 1927: "DESERTED last night from the Detachment of the Rifle Brigade stationed at Charlotte-Town, two men, described below. Whoever will apprehend them, or either of them, shall receive a reward of Five Pounds for each, independent of a further reward sanctioned by the Military Act. "N. B.—Whoever harbours or assists a Deserter is liable to a penalty of Twenty Pounds. "Edward Lavery, nineteen years of age, born in the County of Down, 5 feet, 5 inches high, fair complexion, brown hair, light grey eyes, by trade a baker, dress a Regimental great coat, short green jacket, green trousers. "John Lavery, eighteen years of age, born in the County of Down, 5 feet, 4-1/2 inches high, a sallow complexion, dark hair, dark eyes, a labourer. Dress, a Regimental great coat, short green jacket, green trousers. "A. PEMBERTON, Capt. Commanding. Similar notices were not infrequently in the newspapers of colonial days, and it was complained by the military authorities that despite the rewards offered, they received little co-operation in tracing the whereabouts of deserters. Doubtless there was a good deal of public sympathy for the men, who lived under hard conditions. There seems also to have been considerable illicit trading in military supplies. The following item from the Register of July 10, (1827) was by no means unusual: "On Friday last, William Connor, a Publican, was brought before J. F. Holland, Esq. J. F. charged with having purchased two pair of trousers from Ewan Morgan, a Private in the 74th Regiment, being part of his regimental necessities. The case being fully proved, he was fined the sum of Five Pounds sterling."

WINNIPEG, Feb. 14 — (CP) — City engineer W. D. Hurst will make a survey of Red River Valley snow conditions in March to assess the chance of spring floods. He said to the press that the best of past records Winnipeg will know by April 4 whether it faces the prospect of a repetition of the floods which ravaged the city last spring.

A Progressive Community



Notes By The Way

What has happened to the price of wool can be seen from the contracts the U. S. army and navy have just awarded for 3,700,000 woolen blankets at prices varying from the low of \$14.32 bid by Canton, Mass., mill to the \$16.77 bid by a Somersworth, N. H., mill. These blankets, according to one of the successful bidders, are the plain ordinary army issue. Last June they could have been bought by the U. S. Government for \$4.50 each, which is not much more than what they cost during the last war. In seven months the price has soared from \$4.50 to more than \$16. — Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

Running our eye down the list of 400 uses of nickel banned in the United States, we get the shudders. How long is it going to take to rebuild the widespread habit of using the Canadian metal in its thousands of habitual employments? Will some of these uses be lost in competitive materials? Nickel is being diverted in part to defence orders, and in big part to the U. S. stockpile. There is a risk that unused nickel will be dumped on the public market after military needs are met. It happened before, and heavy losses to Canadian employment ensued. It could happen again. — Northern Miner.

Some months ago we found occasion to comment on the protests of Canadian manufacturers against imported products being sold in Canada at less than Canadian-made goods. Since that time we have listened to protests from almost every type of manufacturer, and lately the harpoons have been thrown in the direction of British-made cars. However, the protest of the Canadian Association of Memorial Craftsmen — tombstone makers — appears to establish there is no limit to the protests against imports. The manufacturer of grave-stones in Canada claims that finished memorial stones from Sweden are coming into the country at prices as much as forty per cent lower than

Corruption Of The Best (The Printed Word) St. Thomas Aquinas is credited with the authorship of the statement that the best things corrupted become the worst, but in all ages many less profound thinkers than that great scholar must have observed frequent instances in support of the generalization. Sympathy with the unfortunate and hatred of injustice are so common that one is inclined to esteem these sentiments as the finest flowers of human nature. The esteem is justly bestowed when the sentiments lead to individual action by men and women who are following the paths pointed out by their own consciences. Corruption of the best begins when the doing of good actions becomes part of a system, commuting the obligations of conscience for cash payments to deserving charities. That second stage of corruption is hardly avoidable or blame-worthy in a complex society, where charity almost of necessity has to be performed by deputy. Unfortunately, a third stage of corruption is apt to ensue, when the deputies for the charitable decide that the money freely given is insufficient and begin to agitate for government grants-in-aid, so that all taxpayers shall be forced to be charitable in the direction of the state. The descent may be pictured as a movement from charity to sentimentalism. Charity is the voice of conscience saying: "This situation is wrong and I'll have to do something about it." The sentimentalist says: "This situation is wrong someone else must be made to do something about it." The final step is from sentimentalism to totalitarianism, when corruption is complete.

The Age-Old Story

And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. . . . And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. . . . And the Lord God said, It is not good that I should make him alone; I will make him a help meet for him. And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them; and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. . . . And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

The Samuel Robertson Memorial Lecture will be delivered by RT. REV. MONSEIGNEUR FERDINAND VANDRY Rector of Laval University, Quebec, at Prince of Wales College Monday Evening, Feb. 19 at 8:30 Public Cordially Invited

Memoirs Of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

(Continued) It was my privilege while a member of the Government, and later as Premier, to attend several Inter-Provincial conferences. The Conference of 1913 brought together McBride of British Columbia, Sifton of Alberta, Scott of Saskatchewan, Roblin of Manitoba, Whitney of Ontario, Sir Lomer Gouin of Quebec, Fleming of New Brunswick, Murray of Nova Scotia, and Mathieson of Prince Edward Island. McBride of British Columbia was then at the height of his career. Candidly, I was not impressed with him. During a banquet given for the Provincial Premiers and their advisers by the Federal Government, McBride made a break which I thought inacceptable. Sifton was a quiet, unassuming man, a chain smoker, who never seemed to be without a long, black cigar in his mouth. Roblin was a dry smoker. He held his cigar in his mouth until it became soggy from being rolled around by his lips and tongue, then he would throw it away and replace it with a fresh one. He never lit them. The most prominent figures of the Conference were Whitney and Gouin who alternately presided as chairmen. . . . Some of the chief topics of discussion were the claim of Prince Edward Island for its retention of the nursing bottles, and the claim of the Maritimes for compensation for the school lands given to Saskatchewan and Alberta and the railway belt given to British Columbia as well as for the north lands given to all the other Provinces which resulted in a great expansion of their physical boundaries. . . . The presentation for the retention of the Island's six members in the House of Commons was by courtesy made by Premier Fleming of New Brunswick. It had been prepared by Premier Mathieson and its main premise was that a mistake had been made at the time of our entry into Confederation and that the record showed that we were to retain our six members for all time regardless of a diminution in population. Sir Lomer Gouin said that if it were established that a mistake had been made, then in justice to Prince Edward Island the error should be rectified. . . . On the question concerning the expansion of the boundaries of the other Provinces, the three Maritime Provinces contended that the Maritimes north lands were of the public domain and that the Maritimes had a proportionate financial interest in them along with those other Provinces which comprised the Dominion of Canada when the transfer of ownership of those lands was made to the other Provinces by the Federal Government. Since they had been purchased from the Hudson Bay Company by the Federal Government out of the public monies, those north lands were the common property of the whole of Canada, the Maritimes maintained. . . . One more Sir Lomer made a significant statement "at the present time," he said, "we do not know whether those lands are an asset or a liability. They are, for the most part, unsurveyed and sparsely populated, and it is going to cost us a lot of money to administer them. However, should they in the future prove to be valuable, then I am of the opinion that the Maritime Provinces should receive adequate compensation for their interest in them." Later, in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, made a similar statement when the question of Maritime interest in those Crown lands came up for discussion. . . . In the meantime, those lands have become of fabulous value. They contain an almost inexhaustible supply of precious and basic minerals such as gold, radium, iron, and oil. Those great natural resources are rapidly enriching the other Provinces and will continue to enrich them for many generations. And we of the Maritimes are left holding the bag. . . . It is a grave injustice for which there is not the semblance of an excuse. But the blame for this lamentable situation cannot altogether laid at the door of the Federal Government nor upon the thresholds of the other six Provinces. It is not human nature for persons placed in similar circumstances to disgorge a portion of their wealth to others without receiving claims being presented. The blame can be fairly laid only at the doors of those three Maritime Governments who remain silent while their heritage is being spent for the enrichment of others—and at a time when they are in such great need of the millions which in all justice should be their share. . . . The Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta had no public lands. In this respect they were in a position similar to Prince Edward Island and the other Maritimes. But the three western Provinces were given compensation by way of generous subsidies. However, they were not satisfied and fought, and kept on fighting, for an allotment of those Crown lands and natural resources which had been withheld from them. Finally, they were given Crown lands which practically doubled the area of each Province and were allowed to keep their subsidies as well. But Prince Edward Island was given nothing as compensation in view of the fact that its share of those public domains had been handed over to the three Western Provinces.

Why should our three Maritime Premiers not be blamed for their lethargy in respect to the Maritime share of those lands? It is not as though, because they belong to another generation, they are not acquainted with the constitutional aspects of the case. But even if they are not wholly familiar with the argument, that, still, is no excuse. Those Maritime claims are on file at Ottawa. They have never been contradicted. On the contrary, they have been tacitly recognized by such great Parliamentarians as Borden and Gouin and all that remains to be done is to take them from their pigeon holes, dust them off, and, in the further light of present day information, present them anew under a condition today far more favourable than that of thirty years ago. . . . Have we prospered under Confederation? We have—and we have not. There is not any pronounced sentiment among Maritime people in favour of secession from the Dominion, but we might well make reservations when expressing the opinion that the Maritimes will never attempt to secede. . . . With the exception of coal mining in Nova Scotia, and their steel mills, there are no large industries of any account in the Maritimes. Our geographical location is not suitable for the establishment of major industries. We are far removed from the large centres of population and we lack the necessary capital to launch large-scale enterprises. On the other hand, Maritimers have sent each year out of the banks, insurance companies, and the trust companies to Montreal and Toronto, which are the headquarters for all our national business organizations. Those millions are used to build up Ontario and Quebec at our expense. . . . But we had industries before we entered Confederation. We had our own carriage-building plants; our own tanneries; our own woolen cloth mills; our own shoe factories; and many other smaller enterprises. After Confederation, we were not able to compete with the industrial centres of Ontario and Quebec. Here, in Prince Edward Island, we were practically marooned, isolated, especially during the winter, from the rest of Canada. How could we manufacture and successfully compete against Central Canada under such conditions? . . . What has been the result of our isolation? Our factories have disappeared and today we purchase everything from Central Canada except our food. We purchase from the manufacturers of Ontario and Quebec everything we wear from the shoes on our feet to the hats or caps on our heads. Every piece of farming machinery comes from those Provinces; every appliance, every bit of furniture, stoves, kitchen utensils, crockery, radios, automobiles, tractors, etc. . . . On the other hand, those Provinces take but little from us. We have nothing to export except agricultural and fish products and those Provinces are both agricultural as well as industrial. The amount of salt-water fish which Ontario buys from us is negligible. Both take some potatoes from us because ours are the best in the world. Apart from a small portion of our potato surplus, they buy very little from us. . . . It was Sir Richard Cartwright, then a member of the Government, who said in Parliament that the Maritime Provinces were the shreds and patches of the Dominion; and, only recently, a prominent member of the Government called the Maritimers "yappers". Evidently, this is how we are regarded by many of the bigger politicians from the larger Provinces. (To be continued)

TORONTO, Feb. 14 — (CP) — One month's pay will be granted to civic employees who enlist in the navy and air force, as well as to those who join the army, Toronto Board of Control decided today. The board previously approved the payment to U. N. special force volunteers. ATLANTIC-PIONEER The Great Western, first steamship intended for Trans-Atlantic travel, was built at Bristol in 1838. SPRING SAMPLES HAVE ARRIVED AT J. P. MacPherson & Son Men's Clothing That Fits 157 QUEEN ST.

Refrigeration SALES and SERVICE Repairs To All Makes MOTORS Rewinding and Repairs ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES Repairs Palmer Electric PHONE 1444