

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, DEC. 30, 1952

Damages For Death

A peculiarity of the law in this Province, as in many places, is that it is apt to be less costly to kill a man in an accident than to merely injure him. The Quebec Court of Appeals, however, has ruled that no such situation exists under the Quebec Civil Code. The particular section involved was Article 607 which provides that lawful heirs inherit property rights and actions of the deceased.

This permitted the heirs to support a claim for damages for pain, suffering and loss of enjoyment of life. The defendant, of course, pleaded unsuccessfully that the claims were personal and that the maxim "Personal actions die with the person," should apply.

In Prince Edward Island there is no provision for the continuance of any claims which the victim might have had against the person who caused the accident. Instead a single action is provided for on behalf of the parents, spouse and children of the deceased for compensation for their loss, which is unrealistically taken to be the pecuniary loss suffered by them as a result of the victim's death.

Other jurisdictions have permitted the courts to count other than pecuniary losses in the compensation to the family of an accident victim. In others, as in Quebec, the personal representatives are put in as good a legal position as the deceased would have been, had he lived. It seems only just that one form of relief or the other should be provided for the survivors who might have considerable difficulty showing exactly how much hard cash each of them could have expected to receive had the deceased lived out his or her normal life.

Reindeer For Scotland

The Montreal Star notes that a private society, known as the Reindeer Council of the United Kingdom, has finally won official approval for the importation into Scotland of a small herd of reindeer. The object is to create a new source of income for the Highlands, now largely denuded of both people and occupations. Thus the British follow the example of Canada which, 20 years or so ago, bought and drove into the Barren lands, a herd of reindeer from Alaska, with the object of providing additional sources of food for the Eskimo and Indian population of the far north.

The Reindeer Council has brought in Lapp herdsmen to teach the Scots the techniques of reindeer care, and it hopes that, in spite of prolonged official opposition, the experiment will result in an economic increase in the meat supplies of the country. While wishing the experiment well, the Star points out that the Canadian project, which has prospered, has not proved a success purely on economic grounds. It has indeed cost the taxpayers a good deal of money from first to last. Its justification lies in its provision of extra food for government wards, the semi-nomadic tribes of the far north who have, certainly until recent times, not received too much help.

"Meanwhile," concludes our Montreal contemporary, "the imagination broods fondly over the Hielan men learning about reindeer from the Lapps. It seems to us about the most revolutionary step attempted in those parts since the English tried to make the kilt illegal after the '15 and the '45. Reindeer, somehow or other, seem ill suited to the Highland scene. We associate them too closely with Santa Claus and Christmas, a saint and a festival which won their way only slowly into Scotland against the far greater appeal of Hogmanay and New Year's."

Cutting Defense Expenditures

The four-day meeting of the NATO Council last week arrived at a decision to cut its planned defence expenditures for next year almost in half. Britain's early declaration that she would slash her 1953 defence program is generally regarded as the beginning of the trend. A recent estimate, however, declared that economy was not Britain's main reason for slowing down. Britain has deep wounds to remind her of the heavy cost of unpreparedness. It was stated that Britain believes new and terrible weapons are being created by the West, and these weapons will make up for the Communists' superiority in manpower. Moreover, it is said that British Intelligence reports no threatening build-up of Russian

forces in East Germany. These were given as her primary reasons for believing that a slower armament program was safe, before economy was considered.

A second report declared that Russian strategy in Eastern Europe is deceptive. It claimed that although Russian strength has not been increased, her equipment has been considerably improved. It also indicated that vast stocks of fuel and material are being built up in East Germany, so that the armies stationed there could attack at any time, without making lengthy, large and noticeable preparations.

The fact that all of these reports are labelled "from official sources", says the Montreal Gazette, makes the problem of deciding which is correct a difficult one. But one fact is definite. Statesmen, under political pressure, have lowered NATO's aims for the coming year. Military leaders have opposed this decision to the limit of their authority. It seems likely that the statesmen have decided that 1953 shall be what their military advisers would call a year of "calculated risk." The free world will hope the calculations prove correct.

EDITORIAL NOTES

If drivers heed the Attorney General's instructions a great many accidents should be avoided. It should be assumed, however, that "the other fellow" knows nothing about rules and may at any moment do the unexpected.

New Year's Day will be a Thursday, in 1954 a Friday, in 1955 a Saturday and from then on always a Sunday, provided that the nations can agree on adopting the World Calendar in time to become effective on that date.

Of great interest and value to our farm readers is the comprehensive review in today's issue by Superintendent R. C. Parent, covering the many activities of the Dominion Experimental Station during the year.

Doctors who specialize in treatment of the skin were told at a convention in Chicago that colloidal oatmeal, the gummy part of the cereal, relieves skin irritated by alkaline soap and water. Thus science once again vindicates an old wives' tale. Oatmeal has long been a popular, if unofficial, remedy for the winter itch.

The sudden death in Halifax of Mr. C. N. Bissett, general manager of the Eastern Trust Company, comes as a shock to all our citizens. A native of this Province, and for many years manager of the Charlottetown branch of his company, he took an active part in social and community affairs and was in every way a model public-spirited citizen.

Over the centuries the Netherlands has reclaimed from sea, lake and marsh about 30 per cent of its total land area. More than half its people live below sea level; they are protected by 1,800 miles of dikes and 2,000 pumping units, says the National Geographic Society. Reclamation of marsh lands in the Maritimes seems a very minor undertaking by comparison.

An American firm in Providence, R. I., imported 1,600 pounds of British pennies, half-pennies and farthings, arousing considerable speculation as to the purpose of the shipment. The New York Times points out that the most likely solution is that the "coppers" are destined to be made into bracelets and other ornaments to take advantage of interest in things British during the Coronation.

Joseph Rudyard Kipling, English novelist and poet, was born in Bombay this date 1865. From journalism he turned to writing light satirical verse and tales of life in India. He travelled widely and commenced writing novels, the first being "The Light That Failed". His best work was perhaps the masterly stories of animal life, the "Jungle Book" and its sequel or his short stories, some of them being collected in "Life's Handicap." Above all he was a poet and prophet of Empire. It is said that he would have been Poet Laureate had he not offended Queen Victoria by referring to her as the Widow of Windsor.

France has spent more on the war in French Indo-China than all the help she has received under the Marshall Plan. Some of her best troops have been tied down in the Far East, and her military losses there have been grievous. The NATO Council, which met recently in Paris, has not only recognized that France is defending the cause of the free world in Indo-China; it also has recognized that the burdens of this war must be taken into account in assessing the duties which France can reasonably be expected to assume in Europe with her stunted resources and over-extended commitments.



The Poet's Corner

THE SNOW-SHOWER Stand here by my side and turn, I pray, On the lake below thy gentle eyes; The clouds hang over it, heavy and gray. And dark and silent the water lies; And out of that frozen mist the snow In wavering flakes begins to flow; Flake after flake They sink in the dark and silent lake. See how in a living swarm they come From the chambers beyond that misty veil; Some hover in air awhile, and some Rush prone from the sky like summer hail. All dropping swiftly, or settling slow, Meet, and are still in the depths below; Flake after flake Dissolved in the dark and silent lake. Here delicate snow-stars, out of the cloud, Come floating downward in airy play, Like spangles dropped from the glistening crowd That whiten by night the Milky Way; There broader and burlier masses fall; The sullen water buries them all— Flake after flake,— All drowned in the dark and silent lake. —William Cullen Bryant.

Old Charlottetown

ACCIDENTS ON THE ICE "On Sunday week, Thomas Hunt, Esq., late Sheriff of Prince County left St. Eleanor's for Princeton, by way of the ice, and on his way got into the ice, and lost his horse. We are informed, it was with much difficulty Mr. Hunt saved himself; as it was, he got very badly frozen. He afterwards proceeded on foot to Princeton, where he has been laid up ever since. Serious apprehensions were entertained for his safety at St. Eleanor's on Monday last, in consequence of some person from Malpeque falling in with and recognizing the dead horse on the ice, and not knowing that Mr. Hunt had arrived safe at Princeton, it was supposed he had shared the fate of the horse. "Another accident of a similar nature happened with Dr. Poole, on Tuesday evening last, and very nearly, we are informed, terminated in the loss of his own life. It occurred at St. Eleanor's, near Charlottetown for Belfast, for the purpose of visiting a sick person; he proceeded to Bellevue and then took the ice for the remainder of his journey. On his return, not being particularly acquainted with the Bay, he was instructed at Orwell either to keep close in shore or keep some distance on the ice; and in keeping out instead of driving between Gallows Point and Governor's Island, he mistook the two points and drove about two miles outside Governor's Island, until he got into the sea ice, and unfortunately lost his horse (Sir Francis, of hurdle racing notoriety) and very nearly himself. On Wednesday an attempt was made to recover the sleigh, but no trace was to be seen of it, the ice having moved off." —The Islander, Feb. 13, 1845

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him; and there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.

ONTARIO LAKES

"The name Kawartha for a group of Ontario lakes is an Indian word meaning "bright waters and happy lands."

Notes By The Way

Federal Cabinet members are these hackneyed expressions, why reported to be not amused by suggestions that after all the Petawawa report came right from the horse's mouth. — Hamilton Spectator.

A cynical friend observes that, in view of the expense attached to the game of golf, it is hard to believe that it originated in Scotland. But please note that Scots are becoming rich by selling it to other countries of the world. — Oshawa Times-Gazette.

Ex-king Farouk is to lose his Egyptian nationality, under a new Egyptian law. But he is supposed to have \$60,000,000 tucked cozily away in American and Swiss banks, and a man with sixty millions is likely to find somewhere a country willing to adopt him. — Ottawa Journal.

While it is true that "Toronto" is pronounced "Tronto," "Tranta," with other variations the difference between pronunciation and spelling is not excessively violent and there is no difficulty in identification. Not so with "Dswishim," which appears to have only local pronunciation to justify its general application to "Des Joachim." As local usage, however, is not always the criterion, as "Montreal" instead of "Moreal" exemplifies, it appears to be only a matter of time before "Niagara Falls" will be known as "Niffalls." — Toronto Telegrams.

Cape Bretoners have cause to join with the people of Antigonish County in congratulating Charles Albert Falkenham, keeper of the Cape George Light for 32 years, upon his being awarded the Imperial Service Medal by the Queen. The distant scene of Cape George across the expanse of George Bay is familiar to those who drive along the road between Canso Strait and Antigonish. A faithful keeper of a lighthouse seems to represent to every man something steadfast and sure. Mankind as a whole is on a voyage to a destination as yet un glimpsed. Amid storm we like to think of a light shining in the night. — (Sydney Post-Record).

Six hundred and fifty elevator operators in the Yorkshire coalfields were on strike. By striking they prevented 70,000 miners from working, and so from earning their annual overtime for Christmas buying. The National Coal Board, unable to terminate the strike, called upon the wives of the miners, whose acerbate tongues and caustic commentary forced the elevator boys to return to work. The twin morals are that there is always a fitting spot for women in public life, and that not even a striker should underestimate the power of a housewife on the eve of Christmas. — (London Free Press).

It won't be long now before most of us are going to have to make a grave decision. Are we going to greet our friends during the Yuletide season with "Merry Christmas," Compliments of the Season," "The Season's Greetings," or "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year?" There is an easy way out of the dilemma, how plans to reach it. — Windsor Star.

TO OUR MANY POLICY - HOLDERS Throughout the Province and beyond, we extend the Season's Greetings and best wishes for Happiness, Peace and Prosperity in the New Year. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. I. Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN • SUMMERSIDE • MONTAGUE

The Passing Scene By Observer NEW AND OLD From the standpoint of the calendar the institution of New Year's Day can be traced fairly accurately to its origin. But it must have been long ages before that that men began to mark beginnings, for love of the new or, at least, veneration for beginnings seem to be woven into the stuff of human life and conduct. Fundamentally, of course, what we call New Year's Day is the same as any other day. For every dawn heralds a new chapter, a new struggle, new hopes and new fears, in the story of life. The man who celebrated his 101st birthday anniversary a few days ago gave as his recipe for longevity a determination to live one day at a time. It is good advice. It may not always assure extreme old age, but as a principle of conduct it sounds reasonable and good. There can be no doubt that it can be said of most of us that we overload today with cargo that should be carried by tomorrow or the day after. Thus our days are heavier than they need to be. Nothing is new for very long whether it be a mechanical gadget, a toy, or a year. Or, for that matter, a thought. It is of the nature of novelty to give place to routine. The ageing process begins at the moment of birth. In these days, especially, many things become obsolete almost as soon as they have cleared the assembly line. Incidentally many things besides machines are produced in assembly packages. Many popular opinions, too, mention one instance. These, too, often lose their freshness rapidly and are replaced by others which at the moment at any rate appear more stimulating. A "Happy New Year!" is a greeting that in a literal sense can refer to a very short period of time. Within a few minutes of midnight, Jan. 1, 1953, another year will have come under the routine of wear and tear. It will be some time, of course, before age begins to take control, but before the peal of the "wild bells" has ended 1953 will be no longer new. In the sense in which the greeting is customarily exchanged it has meaning, referring as it does not to the newness of the year but to the 365 days on the horizon. It would take a prophet of the highest calibre to foretell with any accuracy what 1953 — this new year which everybody is talking about — will bring of good or bad tidings. And really first-rate prophets are scarce, which perhaps is just as well. Life would lose much of its zest and adventure if the future could be laid out neatly in charts and graphs. It isn't likely, though, that the year will differ significantly from the one it replaces in the calendar of the ages. Taking them one with another, and allowing for some untoward event such as world war the years follow quite a well used and familiar pattern. Ups and downs, progress and regress, hopes fulfilled and hopes blighted, the contentment of faith and the bitterness of disillusionment. Do not these things just about sum them up? There are, of course, many questions we should like to have answered, if it were possible, before 1953 gets well under way. Will war come closer or move a bit further away? That, after all, is the big question and practically all the others, or at least a great many of them, are subsidiaries of it. But the avoidance of war, important though it is, is essentially a negative thing. The positive fact of goodwill among the peoples of the world is what we really hope for. At the moment that seems to be a forlorn hope. Certainly it will not be realized in 365 days. Even so, no one can say it must for ever remain a hopeless quest. Here, as in all things that touch our lives, faith is the one thing needful, for if we throw faith away we shall be derailed, "without hope and without God in the world." As Helen Keller puts it: "If I had not faith to think with and suffer with I could not bear the incessant wrenching at my mind caused by the revival of barbarism and intolerance, the mutilation of mankind by war and persecution and tyranny. Faith is the red blood that braces when all fails." "The year is dying, let it die!" sang the poet. Yes, I suppose so, but on reflection we must admit that the year that is passing to its close was not altogether bad and useless. There have been many, many worse ones. If it did not fulfil our best hopes, neither did it confirm our worst fears. "Line upon line, here a little and there a little" — it contributed something worthwhile to the treasury of the good. It brought new evidence, for example, that man's historic fight against disease is much closer than it has been to eventual triumph. And I believe it can be said that during 1952 some further impetus was given to the ideal of a common humanity. It may be that the dying days of the Old will convey some slight impression for good on the first, fresh days of the New. The name of the poet has escaped me but I well remember the lines: "Only a night from old to new! Only a night, and so much wrought! The Old Year's heart all weary grew, But said, The New Year rest has brought. The Old Year's heart its hopes laid down As in a grave; but, trusting, said, The blossoms of the New Year's crown Bloom from the ashes of the dead." MANY LAKES There are 2,300 lakes, ponds and reservoirs in New York State.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS Matheson, Peake & Nicholson A. W. MATHESON, Q.C. A. H. PEAKE, B.A., LL.B. JOHN P. NICHOLSON, LL.B. Barristers, Etc. Collections — Money To Loan 90 Great George Street Charlottetown MacPhee & Trainor H. F. MACPHEE, B.A., Q.C. E. SOMERLED TRAINOR, B.A. Barristers, Etc. Palmer & Haslam A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B. Barrister, Etc. Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers Charlottetown, P. E. I. MONEY TO LOAN Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC. 130 Richmond St. — Charlottetown Phone 590 Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST Dental X-Ray GLOBIA BUILDING 178 Grafton St. Phone 291 J. A. Carruthers, R.O. OPTOMETRIST 123 Kent Street Phone 2872 (Next to Simpson's Agency) A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Phillips Building 113 Grafton Street Money to Loan Collection Bell, Mathieson & Foster Barristers, Solicitors, Etc. R. B. BELL, Q.C. G. R. FOSTER, LL.B. Loans on City and Farm Properties 150 Richmond Street Charlottetown, P.E.I. H. R. DOANE & COMPANY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS 148 Great George St., Charlottetown Phones 2080 - 1447 RANDOLPH W. MANNING, C.A. ERMA F. MACPHERSON, C.A. KEVIN J. MCKENNA, C.A. Other offices at Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Amherst, Dartmouth, Kentville, Liverpool, New Glasgow and Truro. McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Kirkland Lake, Moncton Hamilton, Edmonton, Charlottetown, Currie Bldg., Charlottetown. Telephone 1080 Dr. W. R. Carson CHIROPRACTOR Palmer Graduate CHARLOTTETOWN Phone 1072 201 Prince St. M. Alban Farmer, Q.C. B.A., LL.B. Barrister and Solicitor Bank of Commerce Building Charlottetown Money to Loan J. A. McGuigan BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. NOTARY Etc. Currie Building Chas. R. McQuaid B.A. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY, Etc. Eastern Trust Building CHARLOTTETOWN Phone 1711 Byron J. ... 126 Kent Street (Opposite ...)

Frederic A. Large, Q.C. Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Royal Bank of Canada Building Charlottetown, P. E. I. Loans on City and Farm Properties Dr. K. A. MacEachern DENTIST Dental X-ray Above Charlottetown Clinic 202 Queen St. J. S. Taylor OPTOMETRIST Eyes Examined, Glasses Fitted Corner Kent and Queen Sts. Office Phone 1956—House 1013 Gaudet & Haszard GILBERT A. GAUDET, B.A., LL.B. Barristers and Solicitors Money to Loan Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg.