

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1954

On The Nose

Last year Finance Minister Abbott budgeted for a surplus of \$11,000,000. The white paper he tabled in the Commons yesterday indicated that the surplus turned out to be \$10,107,000. This is an astonishingly close forecast under fluid conditions and if this budget is to be his last as Mr. Abbott says it is, it still shows that experience is a great teacher in the matter of weighing the imponderables of the national economy.

The effect of last year's 11 per cent reduction in personal income taxes (effective for a half year), cuts in corporation taxes, reduction of the tax on cigarettes and the elimination of the stamp tax on cheques and the license fee for radios were all judged with considerable accuracy although both revenue and expenditure were somewhat less than anticipated. This eight and smallest successive surplus comes from a record-breaking revenue, however, and out of a Gross National Product which has again moved upwards.

The influence of rising interest rates is shown by the fact the interest on a reduced national debt has gone up, as has the cost of servicing it. There have been sharp drops, however, in spending by the Department of National Defence and Defence Production, reductions which it is reasonable to expect will be carried further under the new budget.

Canadians are told in the white paper that they earned, saved and spent more than ever before, a highly satisfactory situation except, perhaps for farmers whose incomes and spending did not follow the general trend.

Tonight Mr. Abbott delivers his budget address. Once more he estimates the impact of many economic forces on the national economy and the all-important Gross National Product. Unless he changes his consistent practice he will not count on it rising at a rapid rate. It may almost be assumed, therefore, that with an almost non-existent surplus for the past year he will be inclined to balance tax reductions, if any, with increases that will yield at least a similar revenue.

Nursing Leadership

The theme of World Health Day, April 7th, is "The Nurse, Pioneer of Health". Nurses are rightly recognized as the agents who give life to any programme of public health. A committee of the World Health Organization has pointed out that: "In countries where medicine is highly developed and nursing is not, the health status of the people does not reflect the advanced state of medicine."

Physicians and surgeons would be the first to acknowledge the essential function of nursing. The advance of medical science has placed many new tools in the hands of the medical profession. Their choice and method of use are determined by the doctor but he depends upon the nurse to apply them and to tend the many wants of a patient which must be taken care of if treatment is to be successful.

The more than 50-year-old International Council of Nurses was founded in a century when professional work for women and organization for such a purpose were all but unknown. It has survived two world wars and has allied itself with great and beneficent health movements to play its part as a self-governing and highly organized professional group in world deliberations. The national and local nursing organizations which make up its membership have gained strength through the years and have helped to give vitality to the profession.

Together with the work of nursing schools, the organizations have been the means of providing nursing service on a constantly improving level of training and efficiency. Canadians join with peoples throughout the world in honouring the nursing profession and its dedicated members.

"New Regime" in East Germany

The Soviet Government has announced that, from now on, "the German Democratic Republic will have the freedom to decide on its interior and exterior affairs at its own will." As in the case of the other satellite states, this "independence" is as much a figment as its "democracy". The German rulers of Eastern Germany are subservient dictators. In a famous phrase of Burke's, they "kneel to their masters on the necks of their countrymen." And this is not in any way changed by the new decree. The East German Government will

"decide on its interior and exterior affairs at its own will", on condition that in the future as in the past, its own will is strictly subordinate to the will of Moscow.

It is pointed out by the United Kingdom Information Office that in form, the new status of Eastern Germany is to be almost identical with the status of the West German Federal Republic which is provided for in the Bonn Convention—though the reality is entirely different. Even the wording of the Soviet declaration is, in some of its phrases, taken almost verbatim from the convention. The similarity may well be calculated. There has been, inevitably some annoyance in Western Germany that the Bonn Convention, signed nearly two years ago, has not yet come into force, because it is linked with the European Defence Community Treaty, which has still not been ratified by all the Parliaments of the member states. It seems unfair to many Germans that the Federal Republic should not have the full freedom promised to it at Bonn, because of French doubts and hesitations about the Defence Community Treaty.

Now the Russians can claim that they have acted where the Western Powers have only promised. That provides the West German Communist Party with propaganda material. And it could stimulate the demand, which is already being expressed in Western Germany, for the putting into force of the Bonn Convention without further delay, without waiting for the ratification of the E.D.C. Treaty by the French Assembly. And that demand could, in turn, create annoyance in France. So it looks as if the new move is in part motivated by the perpetual desire to foment trouble in the west, particularly between France and Germany.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Budget night.

France is beating back reckless Communist assaults on Dien Bien Phu in Indo-China and similarly-inspired mob action in Paris itself. Truly the French people are being called upon to exhibit their traditional qualities of fortitude and intelligence.

Nova Scotian lobster fishermen have been receiving a fairly steady sixty cents a pound. Allowing for the usual difference in size and price the prospects would seem to be good for the opening of the season in this Province at the end of the month.

The loss of three out of five Newfoundland sealing vessels in three weeks almost writes finis to an enterprise that once attracted as many as 400 vessels and 13,000 seamen. Perhaps its revival will await the development of aircraft that can carry considerable loads of men and pelts and yet be able to land safely on the sea ice.

Canadian and American civil defence authorities are facing the appalling task of evacuating large cities in the face of the steadily increasing atomic attack. There is one small grain of consolation in the thought that if the week-end onslaught made popular by the late Herr Hitler is adopted the task of evacuation will have already been largely accomplished.

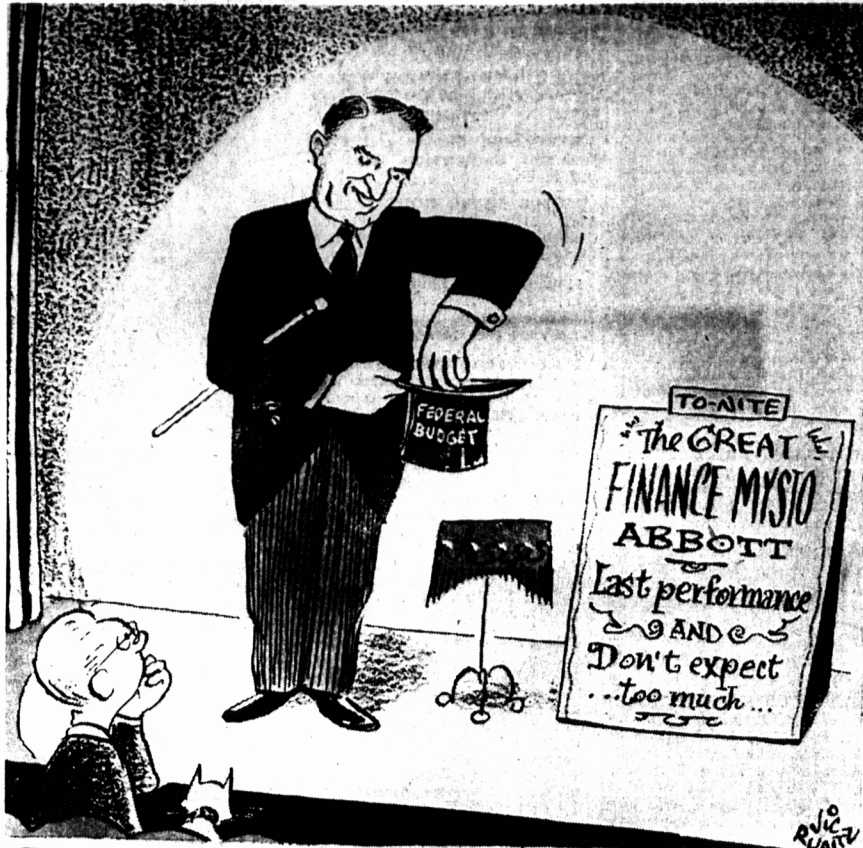
A sour note has been sounded in the Winnipeg Music Festival. It seems that although classroom choirs comply with the requirement that 75 per cent of the pupils enter, in some cases children are instructed to open their mouth but emit no sound. "Goldfishing", as it is termed, is scarcely a surprising development when no other principle of selection is applied.

It was an international bus company that successfully challenged Provincial control of inter-provincial highway transport. The trucking industry, however, as represented by Canadian Trucking Associations favours retention of Provincial control, by constitutional amendment or by Provincial boards acting as agents of the Federal Government.

Raphael Santi, one of the most celebrated Italian painters of the Roman school, died this date 1520. He was taught to paint by his father and subsequently studied under Perugino. He was much influenced by Leonardo da Vinci and Michaelangelo. He profited by the example of one great master and another but never became the servile imitator of any. Despite his short life no less than 1400 pictures are attributed to him.

A British invention to help the Navy operate faster and bigger planes from aircraft carriers is a signalling system which, subject to success in further trials, will ultimately supersede the present system of landing by hand signals. It can be used on carriers or airfields by means of lights and a large curved mirror. With this device, irrespective of the motion of the ship, pilots will be beamed down to the flight deck at a constant angle by day or night.

What's In It?



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.

OUR LAKE

Sir,—Lately there have been two letters in the Public Forum of your paper about the MacDonald Lake in Mermaid. I would like to say a few words about this Lake. My great-grandfather Alexander MacDonald (after whom the lake was named) settled on the east side of the lake in 1842. He built a log cabin about 100 yards from the lake. My grandfather William MacDonald later built a better house on the same ground and here I was born. The MacDonalds owned this land and cleared it to the swamps edge. We always watered our stock at this lake. We had no pump until 1897 and up to that year we got the water for the house from the lake. At that time the water came right up to the bank for the draining of the lake took place a long time after that. I used to have a boat on the lake which I used for getting the many geese and ducks that were shot; nowadays there are not the very large numbers in the fall that there were then. To my mind this is on account of the lowering of the lake for it is now many feet lower in height. In 1926 I sold to the late Major Robertson the old family farm and bought a farm near the school called the Fletcher farm.

I am a Conservative and like my friend J. S. Horton who happens to be a Liberal committee-man was on the delegation that waited on the Government in November. I know that the Liberals are strong for raising water levels but so are the Conservatives.

In 1935 a member of the Government called on me asking for my permission to have the lake raised. I told him I was willing provided my water rights and the right to ice were taken care of. The lease was given and it reads: "It is also hereby agreed between the said lessor and the said lessee that persons or parties, their heirs, executors or assigns during the period of this lease who have land bordering on the said lake shall have the privilege and right to water cattle at the said lake... also to obtain water from the said lake for farm purposes and also to cut ice from the surface of the said lake during the winter months. It is also hereby agreed that these presents shall be binding upon the said lessor his successors and upon the said lessee, his heirs, administrators and assigns." This was signed, sealed and delivered. The late Major Robertson and the late Albert Farquharson had also given their verbal consent to the Government.

On account of the water later being drained away from the lake, many people had to dig their wells deeper. My well which was 36 feet deep had to be dug deeper because it became dry. It is now 72 feet deep. During the time I was dry and before I got it dug deeper I had to haul water from the lake. On account of these wells becoming dry and other conditions on the lake being unsatisfactory, on Dec. 8, 1951 I asked the Government to make these conditions right for us. Instead they sold it and gave a deed to the lessee. Then came the terrible conditions described by Mr. Horton in his letter to your paper. That is why the large delegation met the Government and presented a Petition containing over 50 names on November 1st. They were nice to us and were sorry to learn that these things were being done at the lake. Those of us near the lake are most affected in those further away. Every family in Mermaid, Liberal or Conservative, are close friends of mine. I do not want politics to enter into this difficulty that we are having at the lake and would like all Liberals and Conservatives in

NOTES BY THE WAY

In their haste to overtake happiness, some people race right by it. — Brandon Sun.

We don't have to wait until summer for the successful man to make hay out of the grass that grows under other people's feet. — Sudbury Star.

Dress yourself nattily, young man and you'll win those promotions that some day will make you rich enough so you can afford to go around looking like a bum. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Never in all recorded history have so many orators voiced so many solutions of so many insoluble problems. — London Free Press.

Reports of Ontario liquor profits going up are proof that more liquor is going down. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Just nine years ago Hitler shouted he would go on to the bitter end. Let no one ever say he was not a man to keep a promise. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

In the not-too-distant future, the scientists assure us, we will have occupation troops assigned to satellites whirling around the earth in outer space, and the Old Sarge wonders how long you'll have to be on duty there before a native girl with three eyes and blue hair looks good. — Edmonton Journal.

Mark Twain once wrote: "In the spring I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." While the late Mark Twain's normal habitat was a bit south of the latitude of Quebec, most Quebecers will have no difficulty in understanding what he was talking about. He wrote those words a long time ago, but they hold just as true today as then. — Montreal Gazette.

A little old Vancouver lady walked into the office of the B. C. Electric Company and asked what they charged to install a meter jumper. "How's that?" asked the clerk, who knew very well that it's a highly illegal device to tap

the Legislature to help us to obtain justice and our rights. I am, Sir, etc. CYRUS MACDONALD, Mermaid.

THE CANADIAN WAY OF LIFE

Sir,—Is there not something unique in the Canadian way of life? I believe there is. For many years I have felt it. Our home life is singular experience. We take it all for granted but it might be far otherwise and not nearly so happy. Some homes are marred by disorder, but not many. I lived in a home for nine years where were father, mother, three children and an aunt and not one quarrel did I see. There were arguments and disagreement, but not once did I see illwill. There are a good many homes with fellowship like that. What better safeguard can a nation have than happy and well-taught homes?

There is here in Canada a remarkable freedom and independence. Jack is about as good as his master. I have lived and served in over twenty-five different homes but never have I felt myself as a mere servant. I was a helper, on a par with the boss. I hoed my own row and he hoed his. I pulled my end of the saw and he pulled his. At table it was the same. There was no distinction. Once only I remember I was put to eat in the kitchen when company came. I felt the better of that, for I wasn't dressed, and I had the cream jug all to myself.

In our pioneer days we made our own candles, spun our own yarn and wove our own cloth. We made our own soap. I well remember the dye-barrel standing in the corner of our kitchen for soap making. There were few things we could not do. We could mow a

The Passing Scene By Observer ONLY 46 MILLION MILES Whether or not there is life of any kind on the planet Mars is one of the many questions on which scientists disagree. Some believe a crude form of vegetable growth is possible but discount the possibility of animal life. Others say both forms are possible but that the existence of either is extremely doubtful. Still others, who make up a much smaller group than either of the other two, maintain that the whole subject is too fantastic to merit serious consideration. As for the majority of people who are not scientists, the general view is that it doesn't matter much anyway; we have more than we can do to look after ourselves without bothering our heads about what, if anything, in the way of life and growth goes on in the far off regions of space. The dissemination among the scientists is due mainly to the fact that ordinarily Mars is so far away from the earth that even the most powerful telescopes are unable to bring it within practicable range. Every few years, however, it assumes a less stand-offish attitude than usual, and this summer (on July 2, to be exact) it will be a mere 40 million miles from neighbour Earth, several million miles nearer than it has been at any time since the outbreak of World War Two. This prospect appears to be providing the ironmovers with a good deal of excitement; already plans are being made for full-scale exploration into the planet's secrets and mysteries. The chief observation post will be in Bloemfontein, South Africa; on July 2 Mars will be directly "up over" that city. Besides looking for signs of animal and vegetable life the scientists will study weather conditions and try to settle once for all the matter of the "canals" which have been reported by many astronomers in the past but never actually photographed. At least one man says it is just possible that the July search will produce a little more knowledge than is presently available about the much talked about flying saucers. When asked if that meant that he thought these strange looking and elusive things are launched from Mars or some neighbouring planet, other than the earth, he replied: "At present I don't know any more about it than you do, but I may know something after July." It all sounds fantastic and unbelievable; but so many things are happening nowadays that were undreamed of only a few years ago that no one will say what is possible and what isn't. So far as anyone knows, there may be living beings on Mars and they may be just as civilized as the beings on earth, perhaps more so. They may have atom and hydrogen bombs, the very latest evidences of civilization, or they may have outgrown these things long ago. They may be a thousand years, perhaps ten thousand, ahead of us in both culture and science. It is even possible that dwellers on Mars have reached perfection in living, something which Earthman sees only in his dreams. It may be that at this moment their scientists and philosophers are making final plans for a look at this strange planet called "Earth" which soon will be only 40 million miles away. In the Mars equivalent of Bloemfontein telescopes a thousand times more powerful than the best of our own scientists possess already may have been set up for the July exploration. It is not outside the bounds of reason that they know as much about us as we ourselves know. Indeed, it is possible that they have been travelling back and forth to earth unseen and unknown for centuries. In days when it was supposed that the earth was the central point of the universe it was only natural that man should hold the view that only the ground on which he trod was a fit place for the habitation of living reasonable beings. Ever after the dreamy began to reveal new wonders it was a long time before the existence of other planets became known and a much longer time before the fact of their existence began to penetrate into and influence man's philosophical reasoning. There is nothing in science thus far, and there never has been anything in philosophy or religion, natural or revealed, to prove or disprove man's arbitrary appraisal of his own place in the universe. The more one thinks of it, however, the more unlikely it seems that only one planet out of so many should be "livable". We simply do not know. It is not likely that anyone now living on the earth will see it but, if science keeps on expanding its horizons, the day surely will come when travel from Earth to Mars and other planets will be in the course of routine. Then, if Mars is not already habitable, it will be made so. Meanwhile Earth-Man has plenty of problems to work out on his own plot of land. Thus far he has acquired by means of science a great many things which he does not know how to use properly. The most unfortunate fact of all is that he has allowed his spiritual capabilities to lag far behind his physical powers; so much so, that he is not sure from one day to another whether he is going ahead to greatness or backwards to savagery. It is, of course, possible that what we call civilization will have to start all over again. That would be no new thing; it would simply be the re-telling of a very old story.

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I. SKELETON FOUND "On Thursday last the skeleton of a man was found in the woods a short distance from the Block House, at the entrance of this harbour, by a man and boy who were cutting longers. Some shreds of clothing were found, the buttons on which were those of the 82nd Regiment. There was a soldier's foraging cap on a tree, to one of the limbs of which was attached the strap of a haversack—the skeleton lay underneath, as if it had dropped off. Several of the bones were scattered about, as if torn asunder by wild beasts. Both shoes were found entire, and a squirrel had made her nest in the cap. A walking stick, made of a broom handle, lay by the side of the skeleton. Upon an investigation taking place, the conclusion arrived at was that the remains were those of John Nixon, a private in the 83rd Regiment, who escaped from the military hospital so far back as April 1835, while labouring under mental derangement. Search was made for him when first missed, but as no trace of him could be discovered, he was supposed to have been drowned." —Royal Gazette July 18, 1837.

The Poet's Corner INTEGRITY Lacking in worldly goods, he walks the earth Rich in the qualities of heart and mind. His days are brightened by his gentle mirth In undertones—the escapades of wind Within his barniot, scattering the stalks Of feeding-fodder; antics of the young Coats in their pasture. Everywhere he hears the messages of nature sung In harmony too low for casual ear To note. He goes his daily routine way, A man of honest means, his aims sincere. Integrity, a term he's seldom heard, And yet he lives the letter of the word. —Billy B. Cooper. (In the Christian Science Monitor).

TRUSS FITTER HERE 12 MONTHS NO NECESSITY TO BUY Private Fitting Rooms Hughes DRUGS

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The Age Old Story And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid. And there was a cloud that overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son; hear him.