

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 7, 1953

War Veterans' Allowances

Fifty dollars is the maximum granted under the War Veterans' Allowance Act to qualified veterans' widows who have attained the age of 55. The Dominion Council of the organization maintained by these widows has asked the federal government to raise the maximum to \$60 a month.

The changes in the allowance legislation requested by the widows, and proposed by the Canadian Legion last spring, do not appear drastic. The Legion wants the maximum allowance for veterans raised to \$60 for a single recipient and \$120 for married recipients.

The war veterans' allowance was designed originally to assist veterans who at the age of 60 found themselves unable to carry on their former occupations. In effect, it was an accelerated old age pension for veterans who became prematurely aged.

But veterans on the allowance may receive a maximum greater than the pension, and they have hospitalization privileges as well. At least until Canada provides a more generous federal pension and establishes federal-provincial health insurance, liberalization of the War Veterans' Allowance Act would seem preferable to any fundamental change.

Taxing The Municipalities

Finance Minister Abbott has turned down the proposal to extend the same sales tax exemption to municipalities which provincial governments enjoy. To make special allowance for 4,000 municipalities would be too complicated, the Minister states.

School boards pay a large fraction of it. The Toronto paper estimates on a conservative basis that Canada's urban and rural school boards are paying not less than \$3 million a year on this score. Universities are paying it, too.

Motor Cars

Speaking at London, Ontario a few days ago, Mr. Rhys M. Sale, president of Ford of Canada, gave a number of interesting facts regarding the use of motor cars in Canada.

Fifty years ago, the motor car was an expensive luxury. The top speed was 20 to 25 miles per hour, if a suitably straight and level road could be found. Night driving and winter driving were out of the question. Today, cars are used in all weather, every day of the year.

go to work by automobile, 13 per cent by bus, 6 by truck and 14 by street car. The rest walk or ride bicycles. Fifty-four per cent of all homes have at least one car.

Of the 2,100,000 passenger cars, 800,000 are 10 years or older; 630,000 are 1950-51 or '52 models, 399,000 are 1948 or '49 models. Sixty per cent of all cars were built since 1945.

Trade Outlook

Canadians generally will hope that a new trend in trade will demonstrate the correctness of an estimate made by Malcolm Macaulay, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain.

The Commonwealth economic conference in London last December may well have prepared the way for better trading conditions. One of the longer-term measures considered at the conference was the development of sterling-area commodities which, as Mr. Macaulay pointed out, "would have a ready sale, say, in Canada, and which would not be competing unnecessarily with the products of industries already flourishing in Canada."

British purchases in Canada last year reached the highest value ever recorded in peacetime, but, as the president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain correctly said: The outlook would be "more wholesome" if it had involved a wider range of commodities.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Easter Tuesday.

The "depurging" of a group of Russian doctors is certainly a leading subject of speculation at the moment. Whatever may be the real situation it at least indicates that the present rulers of Russia wish to be taken for enlightened members of world society.

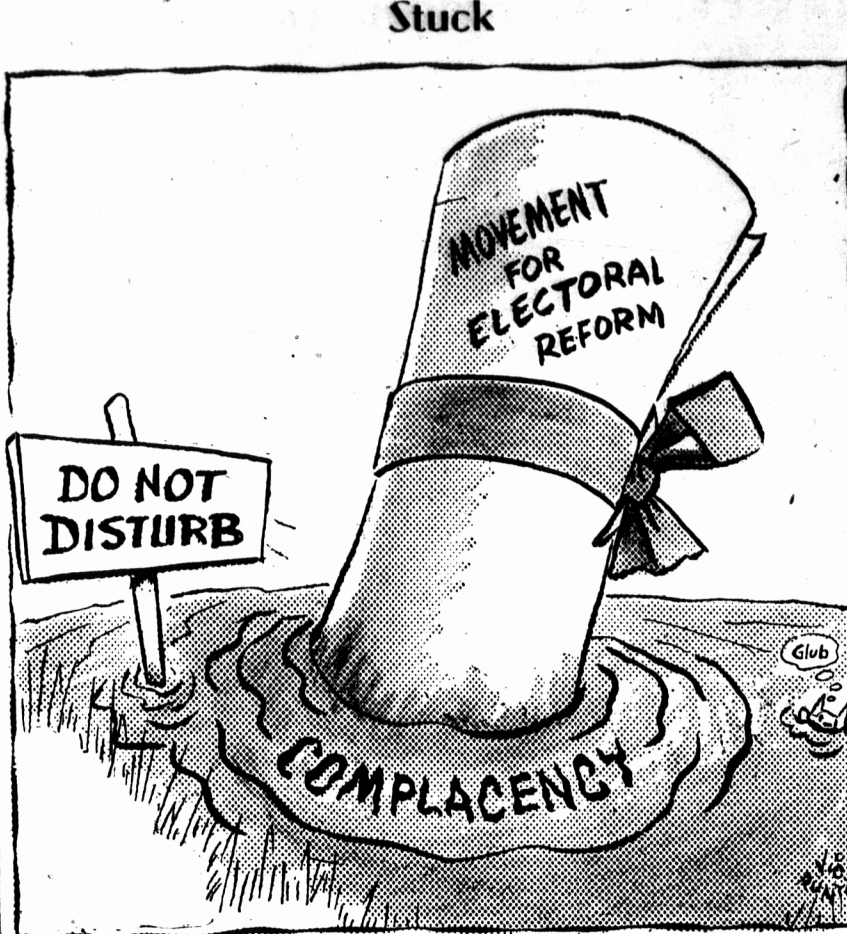
Ottawa is to have another ear to the ground in the form of a new earthquake observation laboratory at the Dominion Observatory. Scientists will probably be kept busy discarding political reverberations along with traffic vibration while on the watch for deeper earth tremors.

Jack Miner, whose birthday April 10 is being celebrated by National Wildlife Week, became a conservationist himself because he first became interested in wild life. That is still the way to teach conservation principles.

It is to be hoped that this week's conference at Chalk River of United Kingdom, American and Canadian scientists will lead to the freeing of much information on atomic energy. The great powers have their methods of acquiring the military information they may need but the civilian development of atomic energy is stultified by security measures.

William Godwin, English novelist and miscellaneous writer, died this date 1836. He was a sympathiser with the French Revolution and representative of English Radicalism. He taught that government is not an end in itself and that man's true growth is towards emancipation from it.

A London commentator notes one significant difference between the remarks on peace issuing from the Kremlin since Stalin's death, and the familiar Russian "peace campaign" which has gone on for four years. The difference is that it is being addressed to the Western Governments, while the old propaganda was directed to the Western peoples over the heads of their Governments, and obviously with a view to discrediting the latter as "war mongers."



Old Charlottetown

LIQUOR TAX VETOED Legislative Assembly, April 23, 1942. From an address to the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Henry Vere Hunsby by the Speaker of the House: "The House of Assembly have voted the supplies necessary for the public service, and for the erection of a Province Building, and have made provision for the maintenance of an Asylum for insane persons, and other objects of charity, and have also granted a sum to enable this Colony to participate in the benefits of steam navigation. These necessary grants will, no doubt, trench upon the disposal resources of the Colony, and the House of Assembly, to uphold public credit, granted a duty of 8d. per gallon upon spirits distilled in this Island; but I regret to inform your Excellency, that this was intercepted by the Council."

The Age-Old Story

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

Trooping The Colors

Since Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne she has had 2 birthdays in a year, her own on April 26 and her official one on June 11, which for her brings a day of very hard work. "It is also a day of toil for about a thousand of her Household Brigade. Together the Queen and her guardsmen have to accomplish the spectacular task of Trooping the Colour", said Peter Lawrence in his BBC talk.

Trooping the Colour is the Army's most important Parade of the year. "Everybody has heard of it. Comparatively few have seen it," said Lawrence. Nevertheless, it is one of the most colourful and impressive of the many ceremonial occasions which Britain is justly famous. Only about ten thousand of the three hundred thousand spectators who turn up at the Horse Guards Parade get a good view. Those on the fringe of the crowd have to be satisfied with what glimpses they can get of the arrival of the royal procession, the sound of the massed bands and, at the end, the departure of the mounted Sovereign's Escort of Household Cavalry, the band, the long line of scarlet-clad Foot Guards and Her Majesty the Queen herself on horseback, a position which she occupies with the greatest elegance and distinction.

Notes By The Way

A notable achievement for the faculty of agriculture at the University of Alberta is the official licensing of its new "Gateway" barley, a maturing type. Barley has become an increasingly important crop in Alberta in recent years. The appearance of this new variety with its combination of early ripening and a higher yield, should encourage the wider cultivation of this grain in the northern part of the province. —Edmonton Journal.

New slant on the "should a married woman work" question is given by a New York woman who says: "One of our most anxiously discussed modern problems is whether the woman of today can be a wife and mother, and hold down any other job at the same time. The woman of yesterday was a wife and mother and held down about a dozen other jobs at the same time — she was gardener, chicken fancier, dressmaker, tailor, milliner, cook, nurse, laundress and goodness knows what else. And she didn't even talk about it — she didn't know she had or was a problem." —Niagara Falls Review.

The tourist trade is fine. We like it. But this city belongs to Victorians. It is their home. Must everything we do be decided on the basis of whether or not the tourists will approve? Let us get out of the huckster rut, build the kind of environment we want for ourselves, and let all who wish to come here and see us as we are, do so, and welcome. This used to be known as a city of homes. Let's not turn it into a city of show windows. —Victoria Times.

The London Times comments on the fact that Stalin's coffin was left open at the funeral. This, it says, was the practice of the Czars, followed for many generations. Why? "The coffins of the Tsars," says The Times, "were left open for the people to see that they had died peacefully and were not the victims of foul play." This is interesting. It will be agreed that there is at much, indeed more, reason to continue the custom under the new dictatorship as under the old. —Wimipeg Free Press.

Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, is quoted as saying, "There are always reasonable and sensible limits to what governments and agencies can do to help meet welfare needs. We must never lose sight of the fact that for every dollar that is paid out in social security, a dollar in taxes must be

The Poet's Corner

CURFEW The book is completed, And closed, like the day; And the hand that has written it Lays it away. Dim grow its fancies; Forgotten they lie; Like coals in the ashes They darken and die. Song sinks into silence, The story is told, The windows are darkened The hearth-stone is cold. Darker and darker The black shadows fall; Sleep and oblivion Reign over all. —H. W. Longfellow.

NEW!

At last—a complete Welfare Plan for the smaller firms employing 10-24 persons, providing in one contract Group Life Insurance and Accident & Health Insurance; Hospital, Medical & Surgical Benefits for employees and their dependents.

Ask for details of this new Welfare Plan. Great-West Life Assurance Co. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD.—Provincial Managers. Please write or phone the Charlottetown Office.

The Passing Scene

By Observer SOME POST-EASTER THOUGHTS There is not, and probably never will be, unanimous agreement on the theological meaning and significance of Easter. This is not to be wondered at, nor should whatever disagreements that exist be frowned upon or discouraged.

So long as intellectual freedom is cherished by free men, so long will there be differences in religious outlooks. And while these differences are rooted in honesty they can do no harm. Freedom, properly exercised, with a careful recognition of its responsibilities as well as its rights, never yet caused any trouble.

There is one thing about Easter, however, on which there is universal agreement, its assurance that beyond the darkness there is light; beyond evil, the good. Historically, this assurance is not confined to any one tradition. Christianity developed the idea tremendously, but it was part of the spiritual armour of mankind long centuries before recognized by Christian apologists in all ages.

It has been said of Socrates that "he put out into the darkness, a moral Columbus, trusting in his haven on the strength of an idea." And Plato's "apologia" for his belief in the immortality of good might have been written by a Christian scholar of this generation.

Life, as everyone knows, is a mixture of many things. There is bitter mixed with the sweet and frustrations mixed with achievements. Here there are bright rays of light, in another place there is shadow, and in still another "the place of a skull". There are valleys of solitude where the soul is alone and there are high places where one looks up to the stars and breathes into one's spirit the air of heaven. But in every human spirit there is a glimmer of hope that the best is yet to be. That is the one thing that keeps the pilgrim on his way. As Grace Noll Crowell put it in a fine poetic passage: "As dawn after darkness, Inherent as the lift of the blowing grass, Whatever your despair or your frustration, This, too, will pass."

Whether or not things always and inevitably turn out that way, paid in." That doesn't quite state the case. It takes more than a dollar in taxes to provide a dollar by way of handout. People in governmental offices have to be paid to administer the welfare business.—Brantford Expositor.

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