

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office... President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett...

Agricultural Resolutions

Timely in view of the fact that the Legislature is now in session is the publication of the comprehensive resolutions in today's issue, emanating from the Agricultural Council of Prince Edward Island.

U. S. Farm Imports

In the controversy over United States restrictions on dairy imports, notes the Winnipeg Free Press, certain highly relevant statistics appear to have escaped the attention of Congressional protectionists.

many. Moreover, it remains true, as stated in the U. S. Department of Agriculture bulletin, that "Our (U.S.) agricultural production is far greater than Canada's and agricultural imports from Canada usually amount to only one or two per cent of the American output."

The conclusion is inescapable and deserves to be stressed at a time when some anxiety is manifest among United States producers over the recent decline in certain farm prices.

"Temporary market gluts that develop as a result of imports should be viewed against the backdrop of our two-way, overall trade policy with Canada. Actually these countries are primarily partners—not competitors—in agricultural trade, each supplying the other's needs.

National Savings

Two items in the budget White Paper tabled in the House of Commons by Hon. Douglas Abbott, Finance Minister, deserve closer examination. One of these concerned savings out of the national production in 1952 and the other dealt with investment and capital expenditure.

Personal, Government and business saving in Canada in 1952 amounted to \$4,483 millions. Personal savings, that is to say the savings of individuals, accounted for \$1,538 millions, or 34 per cent of the total.

Most of the amount saved went for investment within Canada. New residential construction accounted for \$803 millions and other new construction \$1,476 millions.

It is noted that the greatest capital expenditure in 1952 went into manufacturing, housing, Government departments (mostly defence), agriculture and fishing, transportation, storage and communications, and electric power, gas and water works, in that order.

EDITORIAL NOTES

At a great many national conferences Island representatives are largely in the position of being slightly behind developments elsewhere and anxious to learn what others are doing.

After years of moves and counter-moves in international affairs it was pleasing that one of the last acts of the late Prime Minister Stalin was to contribute to the relief of victims of English Channel flooding.

It is surprising to find Mr. Jean Francois Pouliot (L—Temiscouata) using the word "politician" as a term of reproach. Without going into the merits of his battle with New Brunswick power interests, one can only hope that it is the rottenness and not the fact of being politicians that called for his blast against "rotten politicians."

Honore Gabriel Mirabeau, Comte de Riquetti, one of the greatest figures of the French Revolution, was born this date 1749. Imprisoned several times by his father on "lettres de cachet", a title which he used for his famous book. In the States-General and later in the Constituent Assembly he had enormous power with the people, power which he was inclined to use for moderate reform.

Dreamland Coming Closer



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.

TO CURB SPEEDERS

Sir, — A possible solution to prevent cars from speeding through towns, and to cut down the fatalities of the Province would be to have a semi-circular ridge six inches in diameter, painted yellow at either end of the town.

P. E. I. POTATOES IN OTTAWA

Sir, — I would like to thank The Guardian newspaper and the many people who answered my recently published letter, on where to purchase P. E. I. potatoes. I received a number of replies including a nice lot of potatoes from Mr. Lloyd Robbins.

As a matter of fact one company has been most helpful and I might add most generous. Yesterday I was conducted on a tour of the Gamble-Robinson Co. warehouse here in Ottawa and I am now thoroughly convinced that had I not been too hasty in the beginning I could have saved myself and others a lot of trouble and inconveniences.

I would also like to mention that several answers I received came from different parts of Canada. One reply came from as far away as Calgary.

This goes to prove that the Guardian must be indeed a wonderful newspaper to attract readers away beyond the Prairies.

Old Charlottetown

LAST OF THE REGULARS

In 1884 a review of the troops was held on Queen Square in honour of the Queen's birthday. A royal salute was fired and three hearty cheers were given for Her Majesty, but this was the last time for any military display by the troops of Charlottetown garrison.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England:— Somebody, sometime — I don't recall who or when — said that Britain doesn't have a climate, only weather. The inference is that we are poorly served by the elements, although we should be ungrateful if we failed to remember that not so long ago we had reason to be thankful that this was so: the fogs that blanketed our cities and the storms that raged around our coasts more than once gave us a respite from the attentions of Hitler's bombers.

The inference goes further, however. It suggests, perhaps, that whereas most places have seasons of warmth and cold more or less at the times of year when one would expect them, and can consequently claim to have a "climate" (with the word's subtle implication of orderliness and conventionality), we don't. We have seasons, true enough, but they are merely to be regarded as times when the odds in favour of one kind of weather or another are rather shorter than at others.

So we have long since come to accept the unexpected as normal, and the sudden changes have one thing to commend them, at least — they make a useful gambit on which to open a conversation. As Samuel Johnson said: When two Englishmen meet, their first talk is of the weather.

However, having seen to it that we are trained to expect the unexpected, the elements these past few months have showed us yet another trick. Whatever was to be said about the weather during the winter from which we are painfully emerging, it has been nothing if not consistently wintry. And therein, perhaps, lies the ultimate in pervasiveness: other people, in other lands, might have no doubts about what they are in for when winter comes, but we could never be sure. People who live in climates might — if they are in the proper latitudes — expect nothing but winter, and prepare for it; but we, with our climateless "weather" might in the light of past experience bargain only for bits and pieces of snow and sunshine, frost and rain and balmy breezes.

It must have been as early as last September, if not before — it seems so long ago that memory fails — that winter came. We didn't know it then. When we first saw frost whitening the grass, and when the first flurry of snow came whirling about our ears, how were we to know that it was winter and not just another of summer's jokes? Yet winter it was, and it has lasted and lasted until only now, with the first spring flowers poking through and the mercury at least climbing away from freezing point, can we feel that there will ever be anything else.

It has been a winter as fraught with misery as many of us can remember, and so full of tragedy that we never again want to see its like. A truly stinking winter that has put many, many hundreds of our folk into premature graves, and laid low with sickness countless others. The great fogs, the influenza, and the furious gales that laid waste vast areas of our countryside and towns, have all taken their toll. We began to wonder,

not when it would end, but only when, how and where the next blow would fall.

All because we finally had a winter that acted as a winter presumably should. It has to be admitted: we didn't like it at all. We much prefer the sort to which we are accustomed, when bitter cold gives way almost overnight to temperate sunshine, with a gentle breeze that grows quickly into a howling storm before the rain begins to pour. We can cope with that kind of arrangement. For we know that at the height of our discomfort we can hope for something better to-morrow, with reasonable prospect of hope being fulfilled. Even if, on the day after, we are shivering once more.

IMPORTED

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Notes By The Way

"If the children want to bore holes in the radio to see what's inside let them do so," advises a psychologist, who manifestly has no radio, no children, or no sense. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

The tourist does not come here to see another United States. He wants to feel he is in another country—Canada. The wise operator therefore will provide a fully Canadian background in all respects. — London Free-Press.

It isn't only in Ottawa that the increasing population of children is creating problems in education. The situation is province-wide, at least. The Minister of Education for Ontario says that within 10 years "the number of Grade nine pupils will be more than double the present enrolment in all secondary schools—and high schools too will feel the repercussions long before that time. — Ottawa Journal.

There is an ugly tone in the news report that State Secretary Bradley has "ordered" all Canadian book publishers to send two copies of their publications to the National Library of Canada, to be stored until the library is built. The order became effective February 1 and publishers who don't comply are liable to a fine of \$25. This "order" is something that we might expect to come out of the Kremlin, or to read in Pravda: But it doesn't sound like a democratic government appealing for co-operation in collecting books. — Vancouver Province.

The governments of France and Italy have agreed to build jointly a highway tunnel through Mont Blanc, highest mountain in the Alps, and thereby shorten the route between the two countries by several hundred miles. The project now goes before the French and Italian Parliaments for ratification. Perhaps it will have better luck than the St. Lawrence seaway, which two governments agreed more than 20 years ago to build as a joint undertaking. — Ottawa Citizen.

The violet is a flower which makes us sentimental. It is a modest, pleasant and distinguished flower; it's perfume is exquisite. The history of the violet—the little three-cent bouquet—is closely connected with the history of "affaires de coeur". One thinks instinctively of Henry Murger of Mimi Pinson, memories of the last century—and of the delightful hours of our youth, of our first loves. All that, for three cents! Nowadays, we can no longer find violets to protect us from the poisonous fumes of gasoline—at least, not under \$31. All the charm of the violet is dead, with our "progress." — Le Haut-Parleur.

A policeman who looks like a soldier, with a revolver conspicuously holstered at his side, is a very different figure from the unassuming, slow-treading constable we know. It is largely because the police appear amongst relations of aggressive guile that their friendly confidence exists between them and most citizens. Unarmed police, besides making — as a rule — the apprehension of criminals a less violent and dangerous business for all concerned, have a quieting, civilizing influence on the community. — The Observer, London.

Television is raising problems unheard of before. A woman in Ohio has been forced to move because her cocker spaniel, named Candy, likes television. In court her landlord complained that Candy raved a fuss whenever the TV was on. It is largely because the police appear amongst relations of aggressive guile that their friendly confidence exists between them and most citizens. Unarmed police, besides making — as a rule — the apprehension of criminals a less violent and dangerous business for all concerned, have a quieting, civilizing influence on the community. — St. John's Telegram.

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