

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, FEB. 12, 1953

Water For Parkdale

Charlottetown should be reducing consumption of city water in the opinion of the expert it employed. Mr. John R. Kaye passed on to the commission of enquiry on the Parkdale water and sewerage situation the opinion which he had formed as a result of his investigations. That opinion and the facts on which it is based no doubt will have a strong influence in determining the attitude of the Charlottetown authorities to proposals for supplying water to surrounding villages.

The problem which must be faced is indicated to be one of the acquisition of additional sources of water and their development. The evidence of Mr. Kaye is that it is not a question of sharing an already sufficient water supply owned by the city. Even if Mr. Kaye has considerably underestimated the capacity of the city's sources so that there is a margin for expansion it would seem that the city is entitled to rely on that margin for its own future needs and to regard water supplied to the surrounding villages as requiring additional capital investment.

The Parkdale brief seems to assume that Charlottetown's water supply is already inadequate and makes the very sensible suggestion that plans for expansion should be undertaken in the knowledge of Parkdale's requirements as well as those of the city proper. Judge Trainor, on a slightly different point, points out that the problem is not one concerning the city and the village of Parkdale only but the whole built-up area surrounding the city.

Evidence has already more than justified the appointment of the present commission to investigate the health menace through inadequate water and sewerage services. It is to be hoped that the further evidence and expression of opinion will enable a sound and fair proposal to be made which will lead to an early solution of the most pressing problems and clear the way for desirable development for many years to come.

Dairying In New Zealand

While the dairy industry in Canada has been marked by a declining prosperity in the past two years or so, the opposite situation has been prevailing in the sister Dominion of New Zealand. There, notes an exchange, dairying has become particularly stable, with total production steadily rising and net returns in this branch of agriculture higher than would be obtained from any other type of livestock farming. In economic importance, dairying is now second to that of sheep farming.

New Zealand dairying is mainly undertaken for the production of butter and cheese, but increasing quantities of processed milk are being manufactured and the production of casein is higher now than it was before the war. The number of dairy cows has increased measurably and, because of improved breeding methods producing better milkers, milk is in greater supply. There, too, dairy farming has many advantages which enable production to be carried on at probably the lowest cost level in the world. The temperate climate, eliminating the need for buildings, and making it possible for an almost continuous growth of pasture throughout the year, as well as the highly mechanized nature of the dairy farms and factories — these are the principal features contributing to the success of the industry.

While climatic conditions are entirely different in Canada, nevertheless it is perturbing to observe the adverse position of Canadian dairying industry. The lessening of its importance to the national economy, as it is to those engaged in dairying, is of growing concern. Admittedly, the Canadian dairy industry has sustained substantial setbacks in the shrinkage of export markets, notably to the United States and Britain. In case of the former, embargoes against shipment of dairy products in high domestic supply there have been imposed, while in the latter instance the shortage of dollar resources has reduced purchases here to meagre amounts.

The currency situation in the United Kingdom has, on the other hand, been greatly beneficial to New Zealand, which is a sterling area country and presents no dollar problem for British buyers. In fact the dairy industry of that Antipodean Dominion disposes of nearly all its products in the British Isles, quantities going to other mar-

kets being only a small percentage of the total. New Zealand is also favorably placed in marketing its dairy products in world competition, having achieved a higher output per unit of labor which gives low-cost production.

N.B. Hydro Power

New Brunswick is looking forward to a greater supply of electrical energy as a result of the N. B. Power Commission's contemplated plan to develop a hydro power site at Beechwood. This particular source is one of several capable of being linked to utilize the water flow of the Saint John River to produce supplies of electricity for both New Brunswick and the State of Maine. The engineers of the International Joint (Waterways) Commission have already done preliminary survey work on the proposed over-all project, but New Brunswick can proceed unilaterally at any time to develop the Beechwood site to add to its electrical supply.

It is estimated that the new source will be productive of an additional 192,800 horse-power of electrical energy with cost of development being in the vicinity of \$25,000,000. When completed it would more than double the power and light supply of the province, which by June next will reach a total capacity of 144,000 h.p. after the nearly completed Tobique Narrows hydro project and the added unit to the Grand Lake steam plant go into operation.

With a combined total of 336,000 h.p. of electrical energy available, the Moncton Times anticipates that New Brunswick will be in a position to meet the demands of industrial and domestic users, even on an expanded scale and embracing many of the projected new extensions in the rural electrification scheme. And with low cost power available it would enhance the province as a suitable site for prospective new industries locating there.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A great year for the gas tax. Practically all income, no expenditure, and at least a third greater consumption over last year.

If the agreement with Cuba for the importation of sugar is interfered with, Mr. A. Wesley Stuart, M.P. (L.-Charlotte) told the House of Commons, then Maritime fishermen would be "sold down the river." His other remarks made it clear that shutting out Cuban sugar would also mean endangering the Cuban market for potatoes.

Former President Truman has joined the many ex office-holders who have sounded off on the special difficulties of dealing with the Russians. Even if there were no other advantages to an election it can unlock the tongues of those who are familiar with international problems but whose responsibility would otherwise keep them silent.

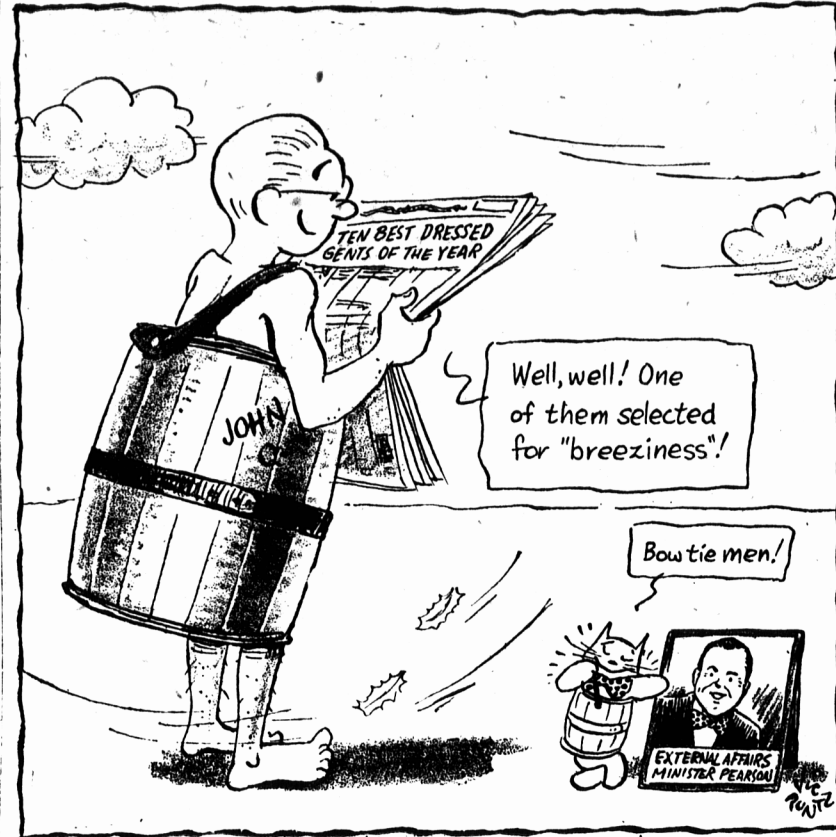
Lillie Langtry, Lady de Bathe, English actress, died this date 1929. She was known as the "Jersey Lily", her father being the Dean of Jersey. She made her debut as Blanche Haye in "Ours" at the Haymarket Theatre, played Kate Hardcastle in "As You Like It". She toured South Africa and America and became an American citizen in 1887.

The restoration of Arbor Day to something of its earlier importance is a well-chosen project for the Community Planning Association. By regular and planned planting, earlier generations provided Charlottetown and other communities with valuable trees which would be exceedingly costly to replace. Planting, however, should be continued according to well-considered plans.

Newest evidence indicates that sleep is "natural" and that wakefulness must be provided by special nervous action, a development of the higher brain centres. A UNESCO report says no matter how natural it is to live a life of sleep, it is human to live actively and awake, and the highest intelligence makes the best use of the waking hours that have been wrested from the sleepy animal nature.

Dominion and Provincial Health and Welfare programmes are undoubtedly snowballing. Churches, private welfare groups, and fraternal organizations, which were once independent, or sought government assistance only to supplement their activities, now find themselves supplementing government programmes and in many cases have surrendered their entire field. The same generous individuals, formerly charitably minded, now taxpayers, put up the entire amount, and the Federal Government formerly far removed from the great mass of individuals, now blossoms forth as the great humanitarian and takes precedence accordingly.

Standing A Chance Himself



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.

EXCUSE, PLEASE!

Sir—"Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." It looks as if I talked out of turn. There are more friends of Mr. Pendergast among my acquaintances than I could shake a stick at. Some of them were highly indignant at me for presuming to censure him. To me Mr. Pendergast was just a name. However his friends told me in no uncertain terms who he was. One of them made me shiver in my boots when he told me that "Big Jim", as they call him affectionately, stood 6 feet plus and had an athletic record that would easily stretch from Kensington to 42nd street; that he was a skilled boxer. I would never be able to make my living by boxing, but I could easily meet my death. In my opinion there are only two kinds of boxers: the quick and the dead.

Then, a champion of Mr. Green accosted me with the question: "What have you got against Mr. Green's contributions?" I was taken unawares. Finally, I answered: "I didn't like that heading: 'Mice and Women.' 'Mice versus Women' would have conveyed more accurately the idea of the eternal rivalry between them. The fair sex do not like to be associated with mice even on paper."

I am, Sir, etc., McANDREW NAVIN Malpeque Road.

GASTRONOMICALLY SPEAKING

Sir—Maclean's doughty photographer Karsh is still under fire in the "Mailbag" part of the magazine. He is "persona non grata" in several sections of this Dominion. His cynical aspersions on the cuisine of the "Charlottetown" was unnecessary and uncalled for—and contrary to the "moral law" enunciated by St. Paul in one of his Epistles, e.g.: "Be not solicitous about food or raiment. Behold the lilies of the field..." etc.

One may almost certainly rest assured that a blatant, uncompromising diner must have been brought up in hard and meagre circumstances. Parvenus clothed with brief authority, are liable to arrogate to themselves the properties of connoisseurs and last word arbiters. The lack of oleaginous and leguminous articles of food on the menu, which have an odoriferous effect on the body metabolism may have irked the gastronomic sensibilities of this scion of the Middle East.

Mr. McLure, M.P., was faulted by one lady writer for being too hard on Mr. Karsh, but she must admit that the provocation was great, and we would be considered spineless tribe if none protested. He left himself open—stuck his chin out. Let him take it.

Meantime the "Charlottetown" carries on serenely—The "homey" hotel of the Maritimes. Its cuisine and service are well known and well regarded by visitors from all America and the old world. The natural perversity of human nature an attempted "knock" eventually becomes a

The Age-Old Story

Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day... All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Notes By The Ways

A Canadian farmer near Whitby claims his cows give 15 gallons more of milk every day since he installed a television set in the stable. In view of all the criticism that has been levelled at television, it is nice to learn that it is good for something. — Fort William Times-Journal.

Old Victorians, people living here before 1910, recall the days when they could buy salmon from Indians on Government Street near the Inner Harbour. There were two prices: 16 cents for a small fish of four pounds, "two-bits" for a larger one of six pounds. — Victoria Times.

Headline writers admittedly face a problem in the matter of the President of the United States. "Boost." Playfulness pecks and innuendoes a la Karsh are as hall on a gable roof. The bard of Avon says: "Small curs are not regarded when they grin, but great men tremble when the lion roars." I am, Sir, etc., J. PENDERGAST Kensington

TRUE NATIONAL SPIRIT

Sir—Last week the Hon. Stuart Garson, Canadian Minister of Justice, while attending a meeting of the Ontario Bar Association in Windsor, Ontario (we have a Windsor in the Maritimes also) uttered a speech in that city which I feel deserved a much larger audience than even the progressive city of Windsor could possibly provide—even for that matter the whole Province of Ontario.

To my mind few Ontario papers gave it the prominence I feel it so richly deserved. His brilliant personality was amply sufficient to stir the blood of every Canadian who had the good fortune of hearing or reading his eloquent address. It certainly contained no demagoguery. Unquestionably it sprang from the heart of a great Canadian. With your kind permission I would like to quote it:

"As long as we can continue to recognize the wonderful wholeness and the wonderful diversity of the free human being; as long as we realize that we can be diverse without being less whole; as long as we recognize that we, as free men together, do honour to ourselves when we honor and respect each other's diversity, we shall have a national spirit that will complete the building of a great Canadian Nation and provide brotherhood and justice for those who say 'I am a Canadian citizen.'"

The illustrious ancients of Greece, never I feel expressed more eloquently their philosophy. As a student of Canadian history, coupled with the honored science of a farmer my opinion is that the brilliant viewpoint so eloquently expressed by our distinguished Minister of Justice should adorn the first page of every history book in the schools of all of our ten Canadian Provinces. That is the spirit that we should go everything possible to distill into the hearts and minds of all of our present and future Canadians. That is the spirit that was expressed by Macdonald, Laurier, King, and is now being perpetuated by St. Laurent, Garson, Pearson and other Liberal statesmen—that is the spirit that welds a great nation.

While that illustrious and immortal Canadian statesman the great Sir Wilfrid Laurier excelled all others since the turn of the century in his flights of oratory—to such an extent that some of his opponents said that "the only figures he ever understood were figures of speech"—it would appear from the above quotation that the Canadian people of the first decade of the second half of the twentieth century are destined to hear eloquently of an equal nature from the descendant of the great Scottish race in the person of the Hon. Stuart Garson, our distinguished Minister of Justice. The Canadian people can profit much by such utterances—particularly when they put the spirit of them into practice. I am, Sir, etc., MARITIMER.

"The" for the head of a great state sounds flippant and disrespectful; "Eisenhower" in modern display type hardly can be fitted into a column. Mr. Roosevelt's name created no similar problem because his initials were recognized everywhere. Mr. Truman is the six-letter man caption-writers bless. — Ottawa Journal.

It has been hushed up, but on several occasions low-flying planes approaching airports over congested areas have been shot at, apparently by irate residents. Bullet holes have been found in planes. Pilots have reported hearing shots and even seeing rifles aimed at them. This occurred at least once near the Newark, New Jersey, airport, before it was closed following the third disastrous crash last winter. — Newsweek.

It takes a long time and undaunted persistence to change over a country, such as Canada, from its pioneer mood of exploitation and waste to a stricter discipline whereby an expendable heritage is set aside for perpetual dividends. The excitement of Canada's industrial growth and the discoveries of new "natural" treasures may easily mask the prosaic truth that our dominant assets are forests, waters, and soils. Only if rigid conservation keeps them intact may anyone claim that Canada's future rests on solid foundations. — Montreal Star.

The Poet's Corner

FOR ANNE GREGORY Never shall a young man, Thrown into despair By those great honey-coloured Ramparts of your ear, Love you for yourself alone And not your yellow hair.

'But I can get a hair-dye And set such colour there, Brown, or black, or carrot, That young men in despair May love me for myself alone And not my yellow hair.'

'I heard an old religious man But yesternight declare That he had found a text to prove That only God, my dear, Could love you for yourself alone And not your yellow hair.'

—W. B. Yeats.

Old Charlottetown

QUEEN SQUARE GARDENS "The special committee for Queen Square held a meeting this morning, when a subscription list was opened for the purpose of defraying the expenses of beautifying the Square, it being decided to lay off and edge the walks, plant flowers, stake trees, etc. Mr. A. Newbery was requested to secure the services of an experienced person—one from the Public Gardens, Halifax, if possible—to take charge of the Square. The chairman was requested to draw up a memorial, petitioning the Dominion and local governments, as well as the City Council, for a grant to meet the expenses. A committee is also to call upon persons interested for subscriptions. There is no good reason why these grounds should not be made equal to the Public Gardens at Halifax. We believe our soil is better adapted, and more can be accomplished here at less cost. Ladies wishing to plant flowers can have beds allotted to them on application of the secretary. Every precaution will be taken to protect the grounds."

—The Examiner, May 26, 1884.

The Passing Scene

By Observer A WORD FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE "Yes, I'm almost seventy-five and soon I'll be ready for the shelf." I heard one man remark to another the other day. There was nothing particularly novel about the remark. In fact, the man was voicing in his simple homespun way a view that is as old as any in the bulky catalogue of theories and opinions. It is not so many years ago that industry was very wary about employing any man past fifty, on the theory that he would be only in the way.

This attitude is not quite so common now, and some industrialists are speaking right out in favour of the experience and stability of the middle-aged and older. There is a gradual re-discovery of the idea that advancing age is not necessarily the same thing as usefulness. The same day I heard the man whom I had approached 75th birthday I happened to come across some words spoken by the late Sir William Muloch on his 95th anniversary when he was still Chief Justice of Ontario. I quote the words here for two reasons: (1) they constitute an exquisite bit of prose, and (2) they refute the commonly alleged aridity of old age. "I am still at work, with my hand to the plow and my face to the future. The shadows of evening lengthen about me, but morning is in my heart. I have lived from the forties of one century to the thirties of another. I have had varied fields of labour, and full contact with men and things, and I have warmed both hands before the fire of life.

"The testimony I hear is this: that the castle Enchantment is not yet behind me. It is before me still, and daily I catch glimpses of its battlements and towers. The rich spoils of memory are mine. Mine, too, are precious things of today—books, flowers, pictures, nature, and sport. The first of May is still an enchanted day to me. The best of life is always farther on. Its real lure is hidden from our eyes, somewhere beyond the hills of time."

Who will doubt that in years to come those words of a grand old man will be included in the classical work of literature? And who will deny that the sentiments they express impart a rich and glowing dignity to the adventure of living? It is natural for the elderly to spend much time in considering the past. It is also of great value to the world, for every good experience of yesterday adds wisdom to some extent the moral ability of today and gives added reassurance for tomorrow. The biblical phrase "other men laboured and we have entered into their labours" expresses a plain fact of history. It is when a sense of frustration ensues from contemplation of lost and weakly grasped opportunities that age is likely to enter a sphere of hopelessness and spiritual fatigue. Goethe had something to say about this:

"Wouldst'th' shape a noble life? Then cast No backward glances toward the past, And though somewhat be lost and gone, Yet do thou act as one new-born: What each day needs, that shalt thou ask, Each day will set its proper task."

All of which, being interpreted, means that living one day at a time is quite enough for most of us and that daily rebirth of hopes and ideals, faith and fortitude, is essential to good living. The elderly,

could, if they would, manage this new birth more readily than the young because they have more in the nature of recreative experiences to draw upon.

Some of my elderly friends (and I am thankful that I have a great number of them) have told me that they spend a lot of their time in pondering mysteries of the why and wherefore. This, too, is natural enough, for the sense of change and apparent loss means more to them than to the young. Within proper limits it is, no doubt, a healthful diversion. Carried to the point of morbidity, as it sometimes is, it is likely to make confusion worse confounded. There are questions in life and about life that we may as well admit have no apparent answers. Wrote the poet Landor:

"I see the rainbow in the sky, The dew upon the grass; I see them and I ask not why they glimmer or they pass. With folded arms I linger not to call them back; 'Twere vain. In this or in some other spot I know they'll shine again."

Then, too, elderly folk are likely to be overcritical of their own talents and skills. "So much to do so little done!" It must be disconcerting to find as one grows old that one's mistakes far outweigh one's good judgements. And yet everybody is aware that the man who has never made mistakes is not likely to have done anything worthwhile. Trial and error have always been and always will be very useful instruments in the art of living. Cardinal Newman put it this way: "A man would never do anything if he waited until he could do it so well that no one would find fault with what he has done."

Addison said that "the two grand essentials for happiness in this life are something to do and something to hope for." One well known psychologist has said that the word "retirement" should never be used. "The balance of good and bad in arbitrary ages for the giving up of customary avocations has never been properly determined, but certainly the exchanging of a busy life for a life of absolute ease has often had disastrous consequences. There is no reason in the world why elderly people, provided they are in fairly good health, should not have important and enriching interests. It cannot be disputed that here are some things which the old can do better than the young, for the simple reason that their hands and minds are more accustomed to them. (I read recently that one large corporation is beginning to question the wisdom of compelling its employees to retire at a certain age.)

As for Addison's second essential, something to hope for, this is a quality that "age cannot (or at least ought not to) wither nor the years condemn." If old people are more inclined than the young and middle-aged to think long and seriously of inevitable things, they are better strengthened in ultimate values that transcend considerations of time and space. To quote Whitlitter: "Alas for him who never sees the stars shine through his cypress trees! Who, hopeless, lays his dead away, nor looks to see the breaking day; Across the mournful marbles play! Who hath not heard in hours of faith, the truth to flesh and sense unknown. That Life is ever Lord of Death, and Love can never lose its own."

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