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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

TUESDAY, NOV. 2, 1954

Where Quality Counts

A truly magnificent showing has been made this year by our Island potato growers at the Maritime Winter Fair.

It is now nearly forty years since the late Dr. Paul A. Murphy, first plant pathologist at our Dominion Experimental Farm, preached through the columns of The Guardian the suitability of Prince Edward Island soil for the growth of fine, floury white potatoes instead of the red and blue varieties then grown.

It was years after our Island seed growers had established a continent-wide reputation that competition developed in New Brunswick and other Provinces.

Along with the attention given to potatoes as a ready cash crop, we have continued to make progress in dairy, hog and egg and poultry production; and here too the results are evident in the reports of the Maritime Winter Fair now in progress.

Rigidity Versus Flexibility

In the United States—as in Canada—the result of an election depends to a considerable extent on how the farmers react to the agricultural policies of the contending Parties.

Under the Democratic Administration of Mr. Truman the parity rate was fixed at 90%. That is to say, the Department guaranteed a price for farm products which assured the farmers that, regardless of periodical increases in their cost of living, their incomes would remain reasonably secure; in no instance would they go below 10% less than what they ought to be.

procedures, and, of course, much less expenditure of public funds. Both President Eisenhower and Secretary of Agriculture Benson have said many times that in the long run this flexible policy would prove to be more realistic, more practical, and more beneficial in every way than the rigid support system of the former Democratic Administration, now being advocated by Democratic candidates.

No doubt there is a lot to be said for this view. High supports almost inevitably mean farm surpluses, and surpluses have a way of depressing the market. But farmers, like everybody else, are interested in the circumstances of the present as well as in prospects for the future; and the fact is that a price support on a definite percentage basis looks more attractive than one which may be high today and low tomorrow, just as a bird in the hand is considered, generally, to be worth two in the bush, although any number of flaws could be discovered in that argument.

The Passing Of An Artist

The death of cartoonist George McManus, creator of the Jiggs family and the faithful chronicler of their day by day goings-on for more than forty years, removes from the newspaper world and from the field of wholesome humour an artist of extraordinary ability.

Mr. McManus's long and uninterrupted record is proof that he contributed much gaiety and laughter to the world for nearly half a century, a period which for the most part had more than its share of anxiety and gloom.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All Souls' Day. The Atlantic always was a highway but it is rapidly becoming more like a service alleyway. Early next year a British independent transport operator proposes to start a trans-Atlantic scheduled freight service providing an overnight crossing.

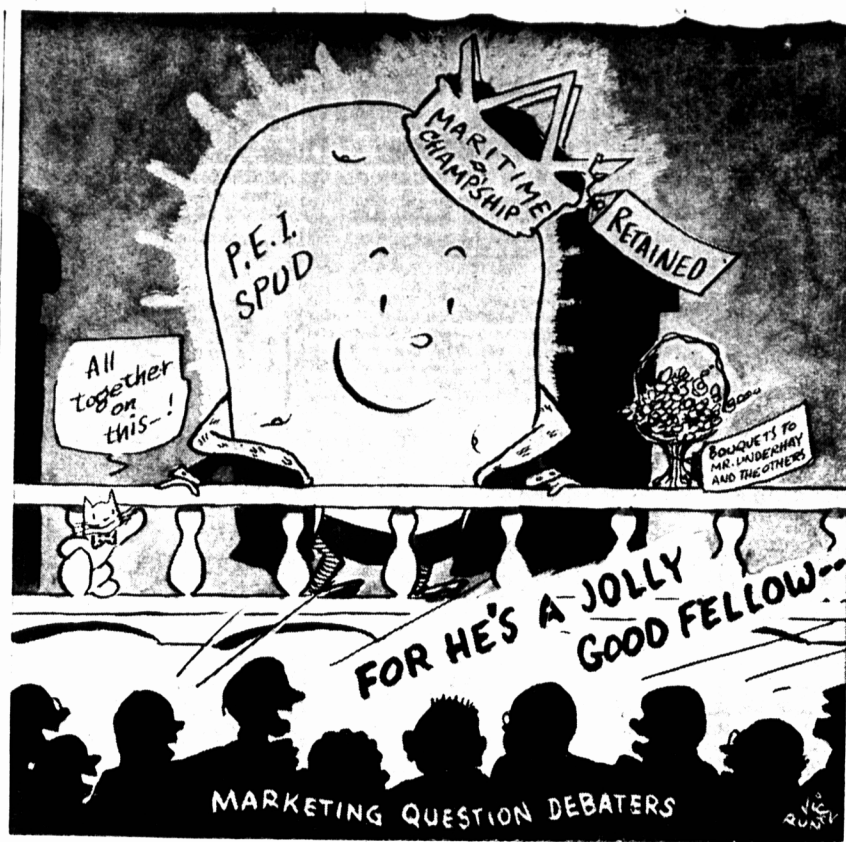
On November 5th, the University of Leeds will confer an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science on Professor Wilder G. Penfield, Canadian neurologist of McGill University and Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute.

Canadian forces abroad, but not in Canada, will soon have the benefit of a service comparable to NAAFI or the American PX for the purchase of goods of every description. The new organization will be known as Maple Leaf Services and will bring Canadian goods to servicemen wherever they may be.

Flush doors made from "off-cuttings", a "waste product" of the Hardboard manufactured from Irish forest timber by Irisa Wallboard, Ltd., will next year bring in an estimated quarter of a million dollars from the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

Money cannot, of course, compensate for loss of sight but the Canadian National Institute for the Blind can use contributions to help blind persons live and work in a manner comparable to their fellows; in Summerside the campaign is getting well under way.

Johanna Maria Lind, better known as Jenny Lind, and afterwards as Madame Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt, Swedish singer, died this date 1887. She made her debut at 18 in Stockholm and had immediate success. After two years, however, she resumed her studies under Manuel Garcia and it was not until she was 27 that she sang in London.



Hail The Conquering Hero

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.

THE POTATO FLEBISCITE

Sir,—Farmers on the Island are about to arrive at the cross roads, but the signs are plain to read. One sign points to happy contented farm family homes on land given by good democratic government to our forefathers in which to raise their families.

The other sign spells auction sales and big business. The head of Canada Packers died just recently and left an estate worth millions of dollars acquired under free selling of livestock.

But times are changing and marketing must change as well. The change is coming right across Canada whether we vote for it now or not. Every other trade, business or profession that I can think of has an organized market for its product. Some still like to call it compulsory marketing, but I cannot see it that way when it is organized by the farmers themselves.

We want a stabilized market and we will never get it with 75 or 100 dealers selling our products and controlled by a few big men.

I am sick of this up-and-down in-and-out business of marketing. This new scheme is bound to lessen the spread between the producer and consumer. Who would think of hiring 75 men with picks and shovels to dig a cellar when one man with a bulldozer can do it in a couple of hours?

No one objects to being told where to sell his products when he knows he is getting full value and more than he can get anywhere else. The farmers in the West have for their wheat a good steady price for their wheat for a good many years, stabilized with millions of dollars from the Federal Government.

Is it not time we got our share down here? I think so. An over-organized board cannot expect to get much of a deal from Ottawa.

I am, Sir, etc., ELDON DRUMMOND, Fredericton, P. E. I.

MR. McISAAC'S STATEMENTS

Sir, I shall appreciate space through your column in order to express a few personal opinions in relation to certain observations made at a recent meeting.

The meeting referred to is the one held at Wellington for the purpose of giving Mr. Leo McIsaac an opportunity to explain to the potato producers why they should have a Compulsory Pool Marketing and a compulsory Central Selling Agency.

Mr. McIsaac who is at present an employee of the Island Co-operative Services (as stated by himself) admits that he is in no way connected with "The Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board" but, as an employee of the Co-operative, is at present strenuously campaigning for the Compulsory scheme.

The writer took part in various parts of the discussion and any point raised was in an effort to have straight facts placed before the producers present which could assist them in making a decision for or against the proposed system of so-called Regulated Marketing.

The Bells of Heaven

'Twould ring the bells of Heaven The wildest peal of years, If Parson lost his senses, And people came to theirs, And he and they together Knelt down with angry prayers.

For famer and shabby tigers And dancing dogs and bears, And wretched blind pit ponies, And little hunted hare.

—Ralph Hodgson

THE LIQUOR PROBLEM

Sir,—For people who care for their country, liquor is becoming more and more a disturbing problem, but we believe Jesus is the answer. The traffic is supported by the church. If that support were removed the trade would not last.

Times have changed. There was no such problem in Jesus' day. There were few alcoholics. Today here in Canada there are a quarter million of whom 50,000 are women.

There were no liquor stores nor open bars, no breweries competing for big profits. No motor cars that kill annually thousands of people. But Jesus was stout against anything that injured or destroyed personality. He became very angry against any one who exploited the poor, or took advantage of the weak.

Jesus is our hope. The Jews of His day drank grape juice daily as we take tea. In that warm climate it soon fermented and became wine. Jesus used it daily as others.

Jesus said: "Am I My brother's keeper?" Jesus said: "Yes certainly you are. This is why you were born." The man who follows the principles and spirit of Jesus will never in word or deed lead another to drink liquor.

I recently met a young man who two years ago was an alcoholic. He went one night to the Salvation Army, and was there converted to the religion of Jesus. He's now married and has a family of three, living an active Christian life and a very valuable mechanic. What a triumph that man is of the Christian faith compared with what the liquor trade was doing for him.

In the day of "Bible" Sunday Campaigns one of the first ones struck was liquor, many drunks were cured, his work went far toward drying up the cities he visited. His work badly scared the booze kings. There can be no doubt Jesus is the answer to this vexed problem.

What we need here is a revival of the religion of Jesus. If the ministers of all the churches were stirred up with the hot anger of Jesus against an evil that is menacing character in and out of the church it would soon stop.

Forward march of this number one evil of our country. And the secret of Alcoholics Anonymous is Jesus made effective through Christian fellowship.

I am, Sir, etc., W. I. GREEN, Stanley Bridge.

The Age Old Story

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. . . . Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

whose leadership and advice is well respected by his fellow farmers was accused of calling a meeting in Summerside for the purpose of throwing out the Marketing Board, etc. etc. My recollection of the advertisement of the meeting which appeared over the signature of the accused and others definitely did not suggest anything of the kind and the resolution passed at that meeting which was under the chairmanship of the same gentleman as published through the press wherein it suggested that there was no objection to a voluntary pool, definitely contradicts an accusation for such accusation.

It is far from my intention to cast any reflection whatsoever on the Federation which I believe can be a valuable asset to the farmer, but I do not believe that the value can only be achieved through the proper and careful guidance of those best suited for its directorate.

I am, Sir, etc., J. L. MacDOUGALL, Summerside.

copies of correspondence of the Marketing Board to and from the Federal Minister of Agriculture. This correspondence he managed to obtain from some source, but according to reliable information the contents had not been discussed to the members of the Board, the dealer members of the Board at any rate. Mr. Hogg, a producer Board member who was present, on being questioned on this point, stated he could not say whether or not it had been discussed to the members of the Board, but he did not believe it was absent from the list one, but some of the correspondence is of a date subsequent to that meeting and therefore could not have been tabled.

Mr. McIsaac also had in his possession a list of confidential nature from the 1953 Selling Agency records. This information purportedly containing the figures representing the quantity of potatoes negotiated through the Pool by certain producers, the relative commission paid and which he claims the amount of dollar benefit received from the Pool by those producers for their own 1953 potato crop.

He voluntarily released this information to the meeting concerning the Company with which the writer is happy to be associated. This information was given with false implications and only used to follow the tactics of another in building up friction between the farmer and the dealer.

Fortunately, the representative of the Company concerned was present and able to refresh Mr. McIsaac's memory and thereby challenge the accuracy of such propaganda, and I again state that I will challenge him at any time on the accuracy of what he attempted to imply.

Similar information given in a like manner could be misinterpreted by some people, result in conjecture, and tend to confuse the public. Such information, accurate or otherwise, has no bearing whatsoever on the present issue. But the fact that Mr. McIsaac has chosen to copy such tactics should alert all farmers who have in the past been able to market their produce through the Marketing Board, and who desire to transact his business with some privacy, the same as he would expect from his bankers, and which privacy I hope they may continue to cherish; and yet when Mr. McIsaac was asked by interested farmers, how many cars of potatoes were shipped in consignment by the Selling Agency, an unparadise sin when done by a dealer and which was used to condemn them, Mr. McIsaac was not equipped with the important and relevant information and passed over that question by saying, "What's the difference?"

Now I would like to ask Mr. McIsaac where and through whom he obtained the figures he is quoting from the Selling Agency records. Did he carry that confidential information with him at the termination of his services with that agency?

On the other hand, if he has received it since that time I ask Mr. McIsaac how he has done so. Did he employ one of the Island Co-operative Services obtain it with the approval of the "Ten man Board" or with the approval of the "One Man"?

There was another incident that occurred at the same meeting which I am sure was very humiliating to a number of those present. That was when a Past President and present director of the Federation of Agriculture ridiculed a fellow member of that organization and made certain accusations. The gentleman, who is a highly regarded citizen, and

SCOTTISH TITLE A provost in Scotland is the chief municipal officer, corresponding to the English mayor.

The Passing Scene

The gubernatorial office in the State of Utah is not a pivotal post in world politics, nor even in American politics. It would come as no surprise, however, to hear that the present governor has attracted a good deal of public attention far beyond the borders of his own jurisdiction. He seems to be the only State executive to reject the Presidential request to observe Oct. 24 as United Nations Day. (It will be recalled that it was on that date nine years ago that the charter of the world organization was proclaimed.)

It will not be denied that the governor spoke not only for himself and many of his fellow-citizens in Utah but for an increasing number of people in the United States and elsewhere when he said that the United Nations Organization has failed to live up to the many fine things its sponsors expected of it in the hopeful days of 1945, or words to that effect. For that reason, in the governor's view, the organization is not entitled to an anniversary observance.

In 1945 it was believed almost universally that the world was sick and weary of war with all its destruction and all its waste of life and treasure. It was believed, too, that in the future differences among the nations would be settled amicably in the council room. Reason, and not armed force, would henceforth be the supreme arbiter in the disputes of the new world that was emerging. Men would be no less brave than their forefathers, but they would be wiser, more mindful of the advantages of arbitration and law, less prone to anger in their relations with one another. War, it was felt then, settles nothing.

It was a good dream, no less noble because it had been created out of fear of what rapidly developing science might do to weapons of war and military techniques, as well as out of moral considerations which man, even in his wars, never has repudiated entirely.

Now, when it is realized that the dream has not come true in every particular, a languid reaction to the United Nations Organization and all its works has set in. Fortunately, we do not hear so much about it in this country, but in the United States strong and well organized attempts are being made to affect American withdrawal from the organization, on the grounds that the whole thing is nothing but a waste of time and money. Several Congressmen of influence are talking that way all the time.

There is plenty of reason for this weariness. After nine years of incessant, often violent, debate and controversy, the making and breaking of good resolutions, the creation of numerous committees and sub-committees and the expenditure of vast sums of money for the organization's many ramifications, the U. N. O. remains something very much less than a happy and contented and co-operative community of nations. Armaments keep piling up; peace is everywhere precarious; war, on a scale never before dreamed of in the most militant councils, is an ever present possibility; fear is on every side; construction of that new world, that was to arise on the ruins of the old, somehow has been delayed.

Yes, it is easy enough for the Governor of Utah, of counsel for the prosecution, to argue successfully that the United Nations is a weak and ineffective institution. Yet, on its record—to say nothing of its hopes, which remain strong—it has not lived an entirely useless life. Its voice has not been without power, nor its hands without strength, as witness the re-

in the spouse which the majority of its member nations made to the cry of anguish from the Republic of South Korea when the Communist invaders threatened its life and sovereignty. True, the result of that conflict was far from conclusive for the free nations; but, at least, the aggression was halted further, if there had been no U. N. O. when the aggression started, who can say that the conflagration would not have developed into the much feared third world war? Almost certainly it would have done so.

In other fields, less spectacular but no less important in the long view, the UNO has rendered undoubted humanitarian service which may yet vindicate its life and charter. It has helped to relieve hunger, pestilence, and disease in many of the world's isolated places. It has carried technological and educational facilities to backward people. It has lighted lamps of knowledge in many shadowy places of ignorance and superstition.

Above all, the very fact that the U. N. O. has survived for nine trying and exasperating years, despite many obstacles, setbacks, and disappointments, is, in itself, an indication that the hope on which it was founded is not dead. And, so long as hope remains, it is unjust to say that the U. N. O. has failed.

Perhaps too much was expected of it to begin with. No organization, however well built and however well sustained—even if its members were of one mind and purpose which, unfortunately, they are not—could hope to eradicate in nine years the prejudices and fears which have plagued mankind for countless ages.

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I. GEORGETOWN STAGE "Samuel Lane respectfully informs the public that he continues to proceed from Charlottetown and Georgetown with his Stage on Wednesdays and Saturdays as usual, at eight o'clock in the morning, returning on Thursday and Monday as formerly. He also takes an Extra Mail and Passengers for Georgetown on the Monday of the arrival there of the steamer from Pictou, leaving the following day for Charlottetown. "Dinners, breakfasts, refreshments, etc., to be had on Temperance principles, at his house, eight miles from the Charlottetown Ferry, and twenty-one from Georgetown. His house of call in Charlottetown is at the Commercial Inn; and in Georgetown at Mr. Charles McLaren's." —Royal Gazette, June 1, 1841.

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POTATO GROWERS The P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board is not sponsoring the Meetings being held throughout the Province. The Federation of Agriculture is evidently not. Donald A. MacDonald is sponsoring them himself in an effort to retain his job as the sole agent permitted to buy your potatoes.

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