

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1954

Mr. Shaw's Retirement

As reported in yesterday's issue, Mr. Walter R. Shaw, B.S.A., M.B.E., is retiring shortly from a position he has long held with outstanding ability and distinction in the Provincial civil service. As Deputy Minister of Agriculture he has travelled far and wide across Canada and in Europe as well, and has represented the department and the Province agriculturally at many important conferences. Apart from two years as a farm journalist and as a member of the 9th Siege Battery overseas in World War One, it may be said that he has devoted his entire adult life to furthering agricultural interests in his native Province, and he has done so in so many capacities that a long list could be compiled of the organizations with which he has been associated.

Foremost among Mr. Shaw's achievements has been the leadership he has given to youth training and boys' and girls' agricultural clubs, to the Farm Forum, and to the Federation of Agriculture and Agricultural Council in this Province. During the last World War he served on a number of important national and regional committees and it was for these services that he was honored by being named a Member of the British Empire.

All our farmers are indebted to Mr. Shaw for his years of devotion to their interests. The same can also be said for every newspaper man who had occasion to contact him during his long period of public service. Always courteous and obliging, he has responded to many appeals for information and for articles on every phase of our agricultural activities. His press contributions have been quoted far and wide and it was The Guardian's privilege to carry, for many years, his Thanksgiving and year-end reviews of our farm activities which were masterpieces of their kind and were widely read and appreciated.

This, however, is not the time for writing Mr. Shaw's obituary. He is still a comparatively young man, actively connected with many organizations, with an extensive farm of his own at West River Bridge and with a wealth of experience, dynamic energy and ability which it is to be hoped will find abundant further scope for service to his community and Province. We feel that we express the views of all our readers in wishing him, on his approaching retirement from his official duties, many years of continued activity in our midst.

In Southeast Asia

An exchange quotes Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, British Commissioner-General for Southeast Asia, as predicting that the French will win a "decisive victory" in Indo-China within two or three years. His prediction is based on the fact that France has offered equal partnership to the three Associated States of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, thus giving the former emperor, Bao Dai, an opportunity to win over nationalists now associated with the rebels. Mr. MacDonald thinks that Bao Dai, who has recently been named Chief of State in Vietnam, is the most underrated man in Southeast Asia.

Reviewing the situation in this region, the Commissioner-General says matters are progressing well in Burma, the Huks (Communists) have suffered crippling reverses in the Philippines, the Communists in Malaya can do no damage outside their jungle fastness, and Communism in Indonesia has been nipped in the bud. Only in Indo-China can the Communist forces still be considered a threat, but if they conquer Vietnam they "will not stop there," as this country is the highway to Southeast Asia.

Mr. MacDonald says that if the French win the victory he predicts, the Communists will switch from military to political tactics, using the "slower and more subtle methods of political infiltration." In this event, he says, the military victory must be followed by a political victory.

Pity The Poor Ape-Man!

It is only a short while ago that they were first seen and already orders have been issued to the police to "bring 'em back alive". It is all in the interest of science, of course; there is a possibility that the strange creatures will throw some light on the missing link theory which has been troubling the anthropologists for generations. It will take a lot of evidence, how-

ever, to make it sound convincing; the Pittdown Man hoax is still fresh enough to make everybody wary of new discoveries concerning the ascent—or, as some say, the descent—of man from his primitive beginnings. There are all sorts of other possibilities, should this one fail, and the experts are in for a merry time.

The ape-men themselves, having no weapons with which to resist aggression, will have to take things as they come. And, having no language but a series of grunts and whistles with which to express their feelings, they won't have much to say. It isn't likely that their first impression of a foreign civilization (foreign to them, that is) will be particularly bright, since not even a tiger, let alone a half-man, likes to be in chains. True, there will be compensations, such as plenty of tapioca for breakfast and a chance to shave every day if they feel like it, which is unlikely. Anyway, we would be willing to wager that before many weeks have passed they will wish themselves back in their native hills where an ape-chap can mind his own business without bothering about or being bothered by the claims and suppositions of science.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 1st Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Name.

A great many people bothered by noise will be grateful to the National Research Council's applied physics branch for designing a pair of lightweight "ear muffs" which will eliminate noise but permit the wearer to hear ordinary speech.

The fisheries department claims to have predicted in 1948 the record haul of the Digby scallop fishermen in 1952 and now predicts that 1954 will similarly be a bountiful year. The fortune telling is based on observations of water temperature at the time when the young scallops are emerging from the egg stage.

The Maritime Provinces continue to make greater contributions to public health. Irish Moss has long been widely used by hospitals and now lobster shell is found to be a major source of d-glucosamine and chitin. The one used experimentally as a cancer retarder and the other for synthetic yarn.

A move is reportedly on foot to remove the District Office of the Postoffice Department here to Saint John, leaving only one inspector in charge. It is to be hoped that this proposal will be reconsidered, as it is a matter of importance to the Province as well as to the officials concerned that the office be retained locally.

Long the foe of "Little Englanders" who would cut the Empire adrift, Sir Winston Churchill is now in the position of facing Conservative criticism for proposing to withdraw from the Suez canal zone. The British Prime Minister, whatever the political situation requires him to do, must feel very much like his most outspoken critics.

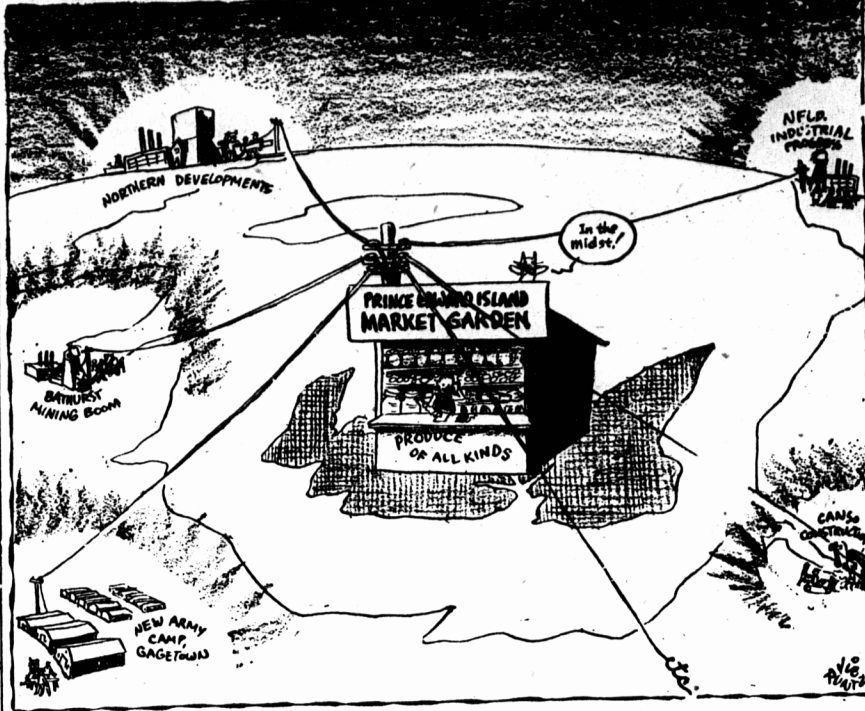
The Department of Northern Affairs proposes to round up and slaughter some 250 of the 11,000 to 13,000 buffalo in Wood Buffalo Park, Northwest Territories. It would seem to be an excellent chance to provide stock shots of old time buffalo hunting for the files of the National Film Board.

Ottawa's Mayor Charlotte Witton is noted for lashing out in all directions. Her latest target is Alcoholics Anonymous. "At the police commission," she is reported to have said, "we call it 'Alcoholics Anonymous.'" The occasion for the blast was that the secretary was misguided enough to ask for rent-free premises for another organization in which he was interested.

Karel Capek, Czech author and playwright, was born this date 1890. He became famous in 1920 by his play "Rossum's Universal Robots" or R.U.R. which added a new word to the dictionary, a robot being an automatic servant or workman. His stories are often very poignant and many have been translated into English. In "President Masaryk Tells His Story" he recorded his appreciation of the statesman whose liberalism he fully shared.

Few people, says the Chatham Daily News, are apt to take very seriously the latest reported move to create an eleventh Canadian province. Heretofore, the movement has been centred in Northern Ontario, whose denizens every now and then feel the urge to cut loose from the baleful influence of Toronto and set up a province of their own. This time, however, the movement for a new province is farther west and north, and the province already has a tentative name. The name is Precambria, in reference to the "Pre-Cambrian Shield," a huge V-shaped area centering in Hudson's Bay.

Ready To Deliver



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.

RE POSTAL DELIVERIES

Sir.—I note, with interest, an item in The Guardian of January 6, referring to two unusual postal deliveries through Summerside office during rush season. While I am not trying to take anything away from the "believe it or not" status of these, I think they may have to move over to make room for this one: During Christmas season of 1952, I received a parcel from Boston, Mass., addressed as follows: Mrs. Dora McDonald, Maple Hills P.O., Charlottetown, R.R. No. 6, P.E.I. My real name and address (and has been for some years) is—Mrs. Dora McAdam, Mount Stewart, R.R. No. 2, P.E.I.

Although only the first name of the address was correct, this parcel was delivered to me within eight days of mailing and, as I considered the fact "one for Ripley," I saved the Customs Declaration card and still have proof that the P.E.I. Postal Department must have magicians on the payroll. I am, Sir, etc., MRS. D. McADAM, Mt. Stewart, R.R.

PAYMENT TO COURIERS

Sir.—Tired this evening, not too long home with the mail... very bad road yesterday (January 5th)... would not have made the trip today only for chains. Had to get the truck out of garage before going, as I slid into the ditch last day and on being pulled out by Government plow, tore shaft from the frame and believe that cost something. The weatherman says milder tomorrow... there is 21 miles of clay road, some of it very narrow... will likely have to get a horse shod and that costs \$4.50. After feeding him since last May, at a cost of about \$1.00 a day, he never did a thing since. The old saying "The Mail must go through" regardless of weather and roads, if at all possible. Now this is only some mild experience and expense of a rural mail carrier. I would venture to say that during the winter months any carrier who drives a car or truck is fortunate to break even, yet the Postmaster General said in his speech last January when debating on the matter, that he did not want one operating at a loss. If this is not wanted, why do they not put the couriers in zones? Pay them so much a mile per boxholder or family served on the route, as there are two and three families on the one box. \$50 for example 50 per mile plus \$2 per family served on a route 21 miles with 90 families would net the carrier \$5.50 a day, not counting his experience; and that is very small wages, whether experience is deducted or not, counting the depreciation of the vehicle. So let us couriers hope that when our good members return to Ottawa on January 12 they will take this matter before the House and not drop it at the first protest until they see that we faithful servants of the Government be paid a living wage like every other Government employee, so that we may be able to furnish ourselves with the necessary equipment to carry His Majesty's Mail in a proper manner, satisfactory to the Post Office officials, to ourselves and to the public whom we serve. I am, Sir, etc., MAIL COURIER

FROM ELEGY ON THE DEATH OF A MAD DOG

In Islington there was a man Of whom the world might say, That still a godly race he ran When'er he went to pray.

A kind and gentle heart he had To comfort friends and foes; The naked every day he clad, When he put on his clothes.

And in that town a dog was found, As many dogs there be, Both mongrel, puppy, whelp and hound, And curs of low degree.

This dog and man at first were friends; But when a plague began, The dog, to gain his private ends, Went mad, and bit the man.

Around from all the neighboring streets The wondering neighbours ran, And swore the dog had lost his wits To bite so good a man.

The wound it seemed both sore and sad To every Christian eye; And while they swore the dog was mad, They swore the man would die.

But such a wonder came to light, That showed the rogues their lie; The man recovered of the bite, The dog it was that died.

—Oliver Goldsmith (1728-71).

plenteous, but the labourers are few.

The Age Old Story

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is

Notes By The Way

The strangest things about those flying saucers is that they are never airborne when guests are around. —Hamilton Spectator

The food expert who says there isn't such a cook can do to ruin a fried egg just hasn't met people with ideas. —Hamilton Spectator

For at least two reasons the bathtub is preferable to the shower stall—the bather can easily pre-mix hot and cold water to his liking and he can sing without strangling. —Kingston Whig-Standard

Thirty members of Parliament have taken up painting as a hobby. This is to be distinguished from whitewashing, which has a much longer history at Ottawa. —Edmonton Journal

Many people, not usually moved to the poetical, feel on 'Christmas Day that they could write a lyric to the roast turkey in much the same way as Charles Lamb wrote a masterpiece on roast pig. It is

Old Charlottetown

From The Examiner of Aug. 24, 1888

The Methodists of Montague Bridge are completing a very neat church. It will be opened sometime in October. It is intended to open it free of debt, a result highly creditable to the people.

The Zora Semon Combination have another of their popular entertainments at the Lyceum last evening. The gold watch was won by Miss Emma Miller of Boston, the silver watch by Mr. Chas. Hyndman, and the tea set by Master Charles Macgowan.

The new cable between Charlottetown and Kelly's Cove was successfully laid this afternoon by Captain Newton, first officer of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company's steamer Minia, and Mr. A. E. Morrison of the Company's office in this city. The work was well and quickly done. The shore ends were connected with the land wires, and were working through by one o'clock.

While the S.S. Acadia was lying at Georgetown on Thursday, her chief engineer and first officer undertook a shooting expedition to Panmore Island, where their perseverance was rewarded by finding game very plentiful. They succeeded in bagging nine brace of plovers, besides several birds of different descriptions.

The Tignish Trotting Park was opened on Tuesday last. Upwards of a thousand people were present. Two races—a four-year-old and a three minute—came off. The first mentioned was won by W. Clarke's Mysterious Stranger, and the latter by P. Crockett's Belle Mac.

The work of frescoing the interior of the Catholic Church at Tignish was completed a few days since, and is most beautifully done. The contractor in charge, Mr. P. E. D. Meloche of Montreal, a gentleman of large experience in his profession, says he has not seen a more perfectly proportioned church in Canada, and this assisted him greatly in producing so excellent an effect. He had twelve skilled artists employed for several weeks at the work, which is a lasting credit to himself and the people of Tignish. The cost of the painting is, we learn, \$3,100.

THE FIRST IN CANADA. The "Phoenix" of London is particularly proud of its Canadian record, for it was founded in 1782, and established the first British insurance office in Canada in 1804—one hundred and fifty years ago. FIRE - CASUALTY - MARINE - INLAND TRANSPORTATION. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. Established 1875. General Agents for Prince Edward Island. Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN - SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE. Agents throughout the Province.

The Passing Scene

Strange how words get twisted away from their original meanings, or which amounts to about the same thing, are adapted to new usages over a period of years. Take "genius" for a good example of this twisting and changing. Originally it was the property of the Roman mythologists. It signified a lesser deity or a living unseen spirit which accompanied every new-born child into the world and never left him until he died. Usually there were two, a good one and a bad one. The good genius was responsible for all the good fortune that happened from infancy to old age—good health, good looks, good manners, happiness, riches, and everything else that was worthwhile. The bad genius, who kept just as busy, worked in the other direction. Sickness, poverty, ugliness, bad manners, and all other misfortunes were his gifts. Naturally, a tug-of-war was going on all the time between the good and the bad. The nation also had its genius; do did plants, flowers, rivers, animals, and all other works of creation. As mythology gradually gave way to a more rational form of religion this belief in protective and aggressive spirits was discarded, but the word itself and the thought behind it did not die. Every great religion, Christianity included, teaches the never ending conflict between good and evil for the soul and destiny of man.

Albert Schweitzer, who is perhaps the best known humanitarian of our day, is said to have a genius for peace. On the other side of the picture, it was commonly believed that Adolf Hitler in his hey-day had a genius for cruelty; his concentration camps were cited to prove it. In these two instances and others like them the word has retained something of its early significance, although the geni themselves have been lying among the dead deities for many centuries. In its most common modern usage the word indicates special natural gifts of intellectual and mental capacity. Some are said to have a genius for mathematics, others for poetry and drama, others for politics, and so on. In popular thinking genius is simply another name for wizard or superman. He can do the most difficult things without much effort or any sort of formal preparation. As it is sometimes put colloquially, "he was born that way". Perhaps there have been a few persons in history of whom that could be said. Perhaps Plato was one in philosophy; Michelangelo in sculpture; Shakespeare in drama; Einstein in physics and mathematics. But, viewing the picture as a whole, it probably is true as someone has said, that genius is

THE COLONEL'S VIEW. LONDON, (Reuters) — British army spokesman Thursday agreed that a recruiting officer went too far when he tried to lure young engineering trainees away from careers in industry. Industry objected to the letters from Lt. Col. C. E. Adie that said: "Civil employment invariably means the monotony of a sheep-like procession to the office for the daily grind—a prospect that becomes more dismal with the passing of the years and which gives no prospect of acquiring any social distinction."

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

H. J. Mabon, R.O. Optometrist. Gaudet & Haszard. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC. Bell, Matheson & Foster. BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC. Chas. R. McQuaid. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY, ETC. Gordon E. MacMillan. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC. Frederic A. Large, Q.C. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY. Byron J. Grant, O.D. OPTOMETRIST. Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC. Dr. A. L. MacIsaac. DENTIST. J. A. Carruthers, R.O. OPTOMETRIST. McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS. H. R. DOANE & COMPANY. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.