

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, 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, THURSDAY, NOV. 6, 1952

School Board Report

The urgency of the problems arising from lack of accommodation in our City schools is quite conclusively shown in the brief presented by the School Board at last night's City Council meeting. Not only are the present school buildings greatly overcrowded, but it is claimed that they are structurally inadequate for a modern school program, that the equipment is in large part inadequate and outworn, and that the present curriculum is too narrow and restricted to adequately serve the requirements.

As a temporary measure for the next academic year, the Board recommends that classroom space be sought outside school property to meet the anticipated increase in next year's enrollment. As a permanent relief measure the withdrawal of Grades 7 to 10 from the present buildings is recommended, allowing the remaining six grades to expand under a program of renovation and modernization. Coupled with this is the recommendation for parallel courses in industrial arts, home economics and commerce up to the end of the eleventh grade.

The Board brief also urges the need of a comprehensive high school, and an additional resolution deals with the desirability of providing two such schools, without duplication of technical or vocational equipment. This matter is one which will require to be given very serious consideration, particularly with regard to the question of cost and upkeep, and of possible alternatives. The question of expanding the curriculum to include vocational courses is more likely to meet with general agreement, but here too the problem should be studied carefully from every angle, particularly in view of the fact that we have a large and well equipped school in Charlottetown for such facilities, built to serve the needs of the Province, and keeping also in mind that the most urgent need of all is to relieve the present overcrowding in the primary grades.

The School Board is to be commended for going thoroughly into the whole question, and the City Council for its evident desire to find satisfactory solutions. But the first and foremost consideration should be the provision of additional classroom space, with regard to which there should be no further delay. This will relieve the situation temporarily, and allow time for the threshing out of the more involved questions, on which it is highly desirable to have the same measure of public understanding and concurrence.

Russia's Role Exposed

Mr. Acheson, speaking for the United States at the United Nations Assembly, has placed all the free world under a sense of obligation by making public, in detail for the first time, the story of how Russia armed and trained North Korea for the original act of aggression, and of how Russia has since been helping to supply the Chinese armies in Korea.

In the latter part of 1945, Russia brought 10,000 Koreans to Siberia for military training. The next year the training of the North Korean army on an intensive scale really began. By 1948 this force numbered between 50,000 and 60,000 men armed with Russian weapons. It was doubled in strength in 1949.

"This was done," said Mr. Acheson, "by adding to it between 30,000 to 40,000 conscripts. There were returned from the Soviet Union the 10,000 trainees referred to a moment ago who had now been equipped and trained to handle tanks and aircraft. At this time also there were moved from Communist China two divisions of former Korean volunteer groups — that is, persons of Korean origin who were organized into divisions and were in the Chinese Communist army were moved at this time into North Korea. It was these additions that formed the core of the North Korean army."

"In the early months of 1950 steps were taken to bring about the mobilization of North Korea. The army was again expanded to 150,000 to 180,000—something in that neighborhood — with additional conscripts, with the return of further persons who were being trained in the Soviet Union, and with 10,000 more veterans from the Chinese Communist army. In the spring of 1950 all civilians in North Korea were given basic military training. In April and May of 1950 the heavy equipment for which the North Korean army

had been waiting was sent in from the Soviet Union. Some of it came directly across the border, some of it came through Manchuria, and both the army and the air force were equipped with it. It included heavy artillery, trucks, tanks, automatic weapons and new propeller-driven aircraft. At this time also Soviet military advisers were attached at every grade in the North Korean army, beginning with the battalion level and including General Headquarters where the plans for the invasion of South Korea were worked out."

There is the record, factual and unanswerable, which proves that Russia cannot come before the United Nations today with clean hands and an upright conscience. She comes before it as a nation that planned and plotted aggression and then had two of her puppets commit the actual stroke of military aggression.

Britain's Bountiful Harvest

Faced with the import restrictions due to currency difficulties, the people of Great Britain have been urged by the authorities to grow more food. The reaction has been general on the part of the farmers and the weather this year has favoured their efforts. Home-grown food, it has been urged, is a dollar saver and represents a mainline of defence. This year's outcome may be regarded as climaxing the grow-more-food campaign started with the outbreak of World War II.

Coinciding with the campaign has been the changing over from manual to mechanized farming. While this has brought about increased production, it has also substantially reduced the number of farm labourers. Those engaged now are said to be less than in 1939 by about 80,000, but production has increased by nearly fifty per cent. Tractors have displaced horses in the greater part of the country. There are 260,000 of these machines compared with 60,000 in 1939. The combine harvesters, cutting and trussing and baling, make short work of gathering the harvest. From 20 in 1939, today 20,000 are operating.

The yield per acre is what amazes the visitor. This year it is higher than ever before. It is estimated that in 1952 Britain has grown sufficient food to supply two-thirds of the population. The Department of Agriculture is doing everything possible to encourage this development and subsidies are granted on grasslands ploughed and planted.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In their very caution the political pollsters were confounded. What none of the experts predicted was a landslide for either Presidential candidate.

The Charlottetown Playground Commission has been considering the rather remarkable proposal to move its activities to Victoria Park next summer. That would indeed be a peculiar method of supervising play in the city squares.

Charlottetown now has a branch of the Community Planning Association, Prince Edward Island Division. The association is for the purpose of studying and publicizing the principles of town planning. This city offers a striking example of how un-planned development can lower property values and raise the cost of providing the ordinary amenities of urban living.

Social security has the drawback that to be general it requires a certain amount of compulsion. A total of seven Saskatchewan residents were convicted during September on charges of failing to pay their 1952 hospitalization tax, according to a recent report by G. W. Myers, director of the Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan. The fines plus unpaid taxes totalled \$86 for the seven persons.

The favorable report of the engineers of the Department of Transport on the proposed extension of the runways of the Charlottetown airport makes it virtually certain that the work will be proceeded with. All concerned have long felt confident that the need and practicality of the proposal would result in success. Those who have urged the measure, however, should postpone back clapping until work is begun.

Sir Herbert Louis, first Viscount Samuel, English Liberal statesman, was born this date 1870. In his long career in politics he held many cabinet posts. He was high commissioner to Palestine 1920-25, chairman of the Royal Commission on the coal industry, 1925, president of the British Institute of Philosophy in 1931 and leader of the Liberal party in the House of Lords from 1944. He wrote: "Liberalism, its Principles and Proposals", "Philosophy and the Ordinary Man", "An Unknown Land" and other works. His "Memoirs" are an authoritative story of the decline of the Liberal party in the United Kingdom.

"A Good Time Was Had By All"



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.

HEATHER POSSIBILITIES

Sir.—It was interesting to read Mr. McInnis' observations (written from Vancouver) on the possibilities of growing Heather on Prince Edward Island.

Mr. McInnis suggests that something akin to Heather is growing in Prince Edward Island around Souris River and St. Peter's. He suggests "someone with botanical knowledge, compare these plants with the Scottish grown brand." This past summer Iva Docherty, receptionist at the Prince Edward Island Information Bureau at Wood Islands, gathered what local residents called Heather from the nearby beaches. This "Heather" was taken to the Experimental Farm here where it was examined and pronounced to be Sea Lavender — sometimes called "Beach Heather." That is likely the plant Mr. McInnis saw on his visit to our Island Province.

Besides being a very beautiful flower, the Heather would also have very definite practical uses in Prince Edward Island. Who has not heard of the Heather Honey? Our Island bees could just as easily produce that honey as the bees in Scotland provided they could reach the Heather. After the bloom goes off the Heather, in late summer, it is replaced by a bud which is excellent food for partridges and gives a special flavor to these birds. The Heather is also used in Scotland for "blinds" by hunters.

There may be further practical uses for growing Heather and incidentally there is no great issue in suggesting that it would be desirable to have such a plant growing in our Province.

I am, Sir, etc., GEORGE V. FRASER, P.E.I. Travel Bureau

FARMING

Sir.—Farming is the only occupation where God and man work together from seed-time to harvest. "First the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear" and right along through the process God is at work. This puts farming on a new basis. A fine farm good crops is a triumph of divine-human relations. As one drives through this country he is thrilled with the exquisite beauty and great fruitfulness produced by God and man working together. Farming is, indeed, a noble profession worthy of the best minds, and the cleanest hearts.

I farmed for ten years but I never saw farming in its divine light. I never understood its deeper meaning and therefore missed the inspiration.

There are good farmers who have never sensed the deeper meaning of farming but they rob themselves of a satisfaction of one who knows he is working with God. After the First Great War, a young man whom I knew took a farm from the Soldiers' Settlement Board. It was a wilderness. The house was out of repair. The barn and outhouses were wrecks. The farm was overgrown with weeds and bushes. That was the kind of farm the Board gave out. But that young man was a carpenter as well as a farmer and one of the rooms in his house was set apart as a carpenter shop. He was a worker and in four years time he made that farm "blossom as the rose." He wrought such a transformation that you would not know the place. That young man invited God into his plans and God prospered him in everything he put his hands to do. The Jew was right when he said of the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord—"his leaf shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Go into a city garden, as we did in Halifax last September and there you will see the handy-work of man and the divine response in entrancing beauty, a beauty beyond words. Canada is just one farm with an

Notes By The Ways

It happens in the best of families. The "black sheep" that is, when conductor Harry A. Taylor took the Pennsylvania Limited out of Port Wayne, Ind., the other night on his last run he had a special train crew made up of six of his sons, from engineer to flagman. But another son is a bus driver. Now, what can you do about that? — Christian Science Monitor.

Provost R. S. K. Seelye of Trinity College, was by no means too pessimistic in asserting that unless the present age can fight and win the battle against mediocrity, there is no hope for society. The issue is just as simple and as terrifying as that. It is a sad paradox that the extraordinary and historically unprecedented development of science by this civilization should have become the trap which has enmeshed its finest ideals and threatened the values on which it was founded. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

As one grows older, there is a tendency to attend more funerals. That is natural enough, since friends are growing older and begin to pass away. Maybe that's why we've been noticing the frequent mention by ministers to this life as "a vale of sorrow and tears," or variations of that theme. Frankly, I think that is silly, particularly in this land of plenty and of freedom. Moreover, we doubt if it is a truly Christian point of view. Is your life nothing but sorrow and tears? It is not likely. We know our isn't. The days are not enough for all we'd like to do, and the end of the week finds us too tired to sit up sometimes. But it's a good life. We surely get more pleasure than sorrow out of our existence. — Ferguson News-Record.

The "loyalty" controversy at the University of California has been at least temporarily ended by a unanimous decision of the California supreme court. The court held that all state employees could be required to take a prescribed oath, but it also held that a special oath or declaration could not be required of state professors.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) STARCH FACTORY DISCUSSED "A meeting was recently held at the Bear River South schoolhouse, for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to induce capitalists to erect a starch factory in that vicinity. The inducements offered, as summed up at the meeting by J. C. Underhay, Esq., are as follows: "Enough potatoes offered by the inhabitants or nearly so, the number of acres subscribed already being about 200, and the subscription list not yet all in. Mr. J. C. MacPhee offers his mill site free for a term of five years to any parties who will erect a starch factory thereon; besides this the inhabitants in the vicinity have subscribed 40 days' labour of man and horse free, when called upon by any party erecting a factory at the above named place. The people guarantee the number of acres as set opposite their respective names for five years, at the price of fourteen cents per bushel." —The Examiner, March 7, 1881.

Fancy Prices For Cattle (Edinburgh Scotsman.) More than £134,000, a record for Britain, was realized at the dispersal sale in Perth, of the famous Craggleton Shorthorn herd owned by the late A. J. Marshall, Bridgebank, Stranraer. Twenty-two four-figure prices were paid for animals from the herd which was the biggest pedigree Shorthorn herd in Europe. In all, 240 cattle were sold for 134,176 pounds 7s, making an average price of 559 pounds 14s. The age of the animals did not appear to matter, and there was fierce competition between buyers. The top price, 4,000 guineas was paid for one of the stock bulls, the red roan Craggleton Guthrie, which was castrated in April, 1950. Another stock bull, Craggleton Bilsland, was sold for 3600 guineas. A four-year-old cow, Princess Andrea, was bought for 2,400 guineas. Overseas buyers were prominent at the sale, and 94 animals, valued at 54,667 15s were bought for export. Thirty-three animals are going to the U. S. A., 26 to South Africa, 22 to Canada, and five to Australia.

The Poet's Corner FROM THE BRIDGE Yet when I cross the river On its bridge with wooden piers, Like the odor of brine from the ocean Comes the thought of other years. And I think how many thousands Of care-encumbered men. Each, bearing his burden of sorrow, Have crossed the bridge since then. I see the long procession Still passing to and fro, The young heart hot and restless And the old subdued and slow — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

The Age-Old Story "I, pleased Darius to set over the kingdom as hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; and over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

The Passing Scene

By Observer

RELIGIOUS SURVEY

I have before me an interesting little statistical report of a nationwide United States survey made by one of those research firms which like to dig into the opinions and convictions of large groups of people. They stand ready to undertake any kind of investigation from how people vote to what they talk about in their sleep.

The question which formed the basis of this survey was: "Do you believe in God?" It was put to many thousands of people including Roman Catholics, Orthodox Christians, all the major Protestant denominations, Jews, Agnostics, Atheists. No income group, race, or location was left out. Age groups ranged from High School students to extreme old age.

Following are some of the results: Only one out of every hundred interviewed answered the question negatively. That is to say, only 1% do not believe in God. It does not mean, however, that intellectual atheism is limited to that small proportion. Some who professed to be atheists said that they were not prepared actually to deny the existence of God. There may be no way of being intellectually certain about it. This seems to put that particular group among the agnostics who are usually not quite so dogmatic about disbelief as out and out atheists.

Broken down according to Christian and Jewish religious affiliations, the report shows that only slightly less than 100% of Roman Catholics have definite faith in the existence of God. The remaining fraction, so small as to be almost negligible, expressed mild doubt. Non-Roman Catholics were almost as certain. Only a little more than 1% professed scepticism, and only about 1-2 of 1% gave an unequivocal "no" to the question. The Jews, including Orthodox and Reformed, did not do quite as well. Roughly 3% of them gave negative answers of more or less intensity.

There are of course in every country quite a number of people who put themselves down as Christians but who have no direct affiliation with any organized group. Disbelief in this group was comparatively high, 12% to be exact. Another 3% said they could not honestly answer the question one way or the other.

Women are evidently more certain than men when it comes to belief in God. Less than 1-2 of 1% put themselves down as unbelievers or disbelievers. 2% of men were in that group. Higher education, the report shows, is not always an aid to religious faith. 99% of high school graduates expressed belief while the ratio for those who went through university was only 94%.

So far as race is concerned it seems to have little or no bearing on faith. At least that is what the figures in this report show. Among occupational groups farmers came first with practically 100% of definite believers. (This does not seem to tally with another report I read sometime ago which said that farmers were the worst of all church-goers.) This high rating should not surprise anyone. It would be extremely difficult, even unnatural, for a man who spends most of his time in caring for the earth to say there is no God. Unless he be altogether blind he sees evidence of God's power and glory whenever he lifts up his eyes into the fields.

The so-called professions do not show up quite as well but even so, 97% were on the side of faith. Doctors came first, lawyers last. Age, in itself, has hardly any influence in determining belief according to the results of this survey. Indeed, up to 65 the difference was so small as to be virtually unnoticeable. After that age there was slightly more certainty regarding the existence of God, but not enough to indicate that old age necessarily brings settled religious convictions.

The investigators were not content to stop at the one question, "Do you believe in God?" For those who answered "yes" they had another intended to bring out the exact strength and durability of belief. This was subdivided as follows: (a) Absolutely certain (b) fairly sure (c) not quite sure, but like to think there is (d) not at all sure, but not sure there isn't. The answers to this series showed that 87% of all persons interviewed were absolutely and unconditionally sure; 10% were fairly sure; 2% not quite sure; and less than 1-2 of 1% not at all sure. Broken down into denominational groups the results showed: Roman Catholics, 92% absolutely sure; 7% fairly sure; and 1% not quite sure. Non-Roman Christians, including Orthodox and Protestant of various schools, 87% absolutely sure; 10% fairly sure; 2% not quite sure. Jews, 70% certain; 18% reasonably certain; 9% not quite sure.

No survey can be presumed to be infallible in either its methods or judgments. It is not likely, therefore, that the results of this research into faith in God will gauge accurately the trend of fundamental religious thought in the United States or elsewhere. It may be presumed, however, that they have a specific significance in the general intellectual picture. If they are at all reliable they do not seem to indicate any real foundation for the newly held pessimistic view that modern civilization is virtually godless.

It is of course true that intellectual assent to simple belief in God does not in itself imply moral righteousness in any social group. But, certainly, it ought to be a great help in the development of such a goal.

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