

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 WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2, 1953

Electoral Tangle in Kings

The executive of the Kings County Progressive Conservative Association has intimated its intention of laying charges under the Canada Elections Act, with respect to alleged violations of the Act during the Federal election of August 10th. It has not been indicated whether the charges, if substantiated, are to be used as a means of unseating the successful candidate in Kings, Mr. Thomas Kickham, or whether it is merely proposed to let the law take its course in respect to particular individuals who may have been guilty of infractions under the Act. In any case, comment on the validity or otherwise of the charges would at this stage be entirely out of place. It is the right of any citizen or body of citizens to bring such matters before our courts if they feel justified in so doing, and the public can afford to await the decision with confidence in the fairness and equity of the proceedings.

The issue is of more than usual interest in view of the fact that two weeks ago Premier Matheson, for the Provincial Government, recalled the writ for a Provincial by-election, indicating that it is considered that there is no vacancy in the Provincial Legislature in respect to Third Kings. This step showed that, in the opinion of the Government, the Federal Conservative candidate for the County, Mr. John A. Macdonald, had not effectively resigned his seat. The inevitable implication is, of course, that he was improperly nominated for the Federal contest while still a member of the Provincial House.

Mr. Macdonald, on the other hand, maintains that he did effectively resign from the Provincial Legislature; that although the Provincial Act states that a resigning member "may" make his declaration before two subscribing witnesses, it does not necessarily require that formality. How the correct interpretation is to be arrived at does not yet appear.

Issues of this kind show how important is the task of drafting legislation clearly and unambiguously. Our laws are the result of a long process of trial and error in this respect, with the final burden resting upon the courts of determining what the law-makers had in mind. The Canadian Press has given wide publicity to the electoral tangle in Kings, and we are likely to hear more on the subject before it is disposed of. The pending actions under the Canada Elections Act may serve to bring the whole issue to a head. Let us hope, at any rate, that they do not add to the confusion.

Education in Ontario

Even the wealthy Province of Ontario has its teacher shortage problem. To meet it the Ontario Department of Education proposes to grant a permanent first-class teaching certificate to all teachers after completion of two years' training. This move follows a long period of progressive depreciation of the standards of qualification for teaching, during the war and since, which was brought to a climax by the admission of Grade XII students to teaching after a five-weeks' summer course. Now the Federation of Women Teachers Association are complaining. They have lodged a protest with the Ontario Government on the ground that professional standards cannot be maintained if no differentiation is made between those well qualified and those of inferior standing.

The women teachers are fully aware of the alarming teacher shortage, says the Globe and Mail; but they take the long view that emergency measures ought to be acknowledged as such. They hold that unqualified persons ought to be granted temporary certificates, good only for a certain period unless they improve their standing by further effort. The permanent first-class certificate should not be made meaningless as a standard. Least of all should it be made a bribe to get young people to go into teaching.

"There is an element of self-interest in this position," says our Toronto contemporary; "but it stems from a sense of personal responsibility both to the teaching profession and to the children it serves. Dedicated people who determine to make teaching a life work, and obtain the highest level of qualification for that form of service, ought not to be insulted by having everybody and sundry rated on the same level. But what is of even more serious importance is that well-qualified people will simply stop consid-

ering teaching as an occupation if their attainments are not to be recognized and honored. The chief losers in that case will be the children of the Province."

State Portrait Commissioned

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to select Mr. James Gunn, A.R.A., to paint her State Portrait. The Minister of Works in the United Kingdom Government, Sir David Eccles, has accordingly commissioned Mr. Gunn to produce both the original painting and one master copy.

Before the Renaissance, says "This Is Britain", the appearance of Sovereigns was conveyed to their subjects by images, whether in paint, in sculptured effigies or on coins, of extreme formality in which the emphasis was entirely on the embodiment of monarchy rather than on a portrait of the actual wearer of the Crown.

Something of this impersonal function survived into more modern times; Holbein's portraits of Henry VIII, with all their superb technique have an almost oriental remoteness, and many of the portraits of Elizabeth I are concerned more with the emblems and achievements of royalty than with the human being behind them. The State Portrait also has to combine, with an accurate likeness of the Sovereign, an impression of the splendour of the monarchy to which he or she is the heir.

It has been customary for the State Portrait to be produced soon after the Coronation of the Sovereign and for it to be placed in the Royal Collection, but it also has to serve as the prototype from which copies can be made for distribution to Government Houses, British Embassies and other British government buildings abroad. It is thus the approved, official likeness of the Sovereign for dispatch overseas. The portrait must show the King or Queen in Coronation robes of State and with the regalia.

Trade With Japan

When Mr. Robert Mayhew, former Minister of Fisheries, was appointed Canadian ambassador to Japan his first assignment was to facilitate the negotiation of a trade treaty between Japan and Canada. During a recent visit to Ottawa, where Japanese negotiators are at work with Canadian Government officials, Mr. Mayhew made a statement on this subject more candid than the usual language of diplomats. He said that Canada should try to erect a reasonable balance in its trade with Japan. Last year, he pointed out, Canada sold Japan \$115,000,000 worth of goods and bought from Japan to the amount of only \$12,000,000. This is obviously a one-sided bargain which Japan, being short of dollars, cannot long support.

"It is becoming increasingly evident," Mr. Mayhew added, "that foreign trade is even more important to the economy of Japan than it is to the economy of Canada, since Japan must import a high percentage of her foodstuffs and most of the essential raw materials."

Japan, Mr. Mayhew observes, is Canada's fourth largest foreign customer—a customer which will buy increasingly from this country if it can earn the necessary dollars by sales here. Our sales in Japan, Mr. Mayhew emphasizes, will depend on Canada's "willingness to increase the level of imports from Japan."

EDITORIAL NOTES

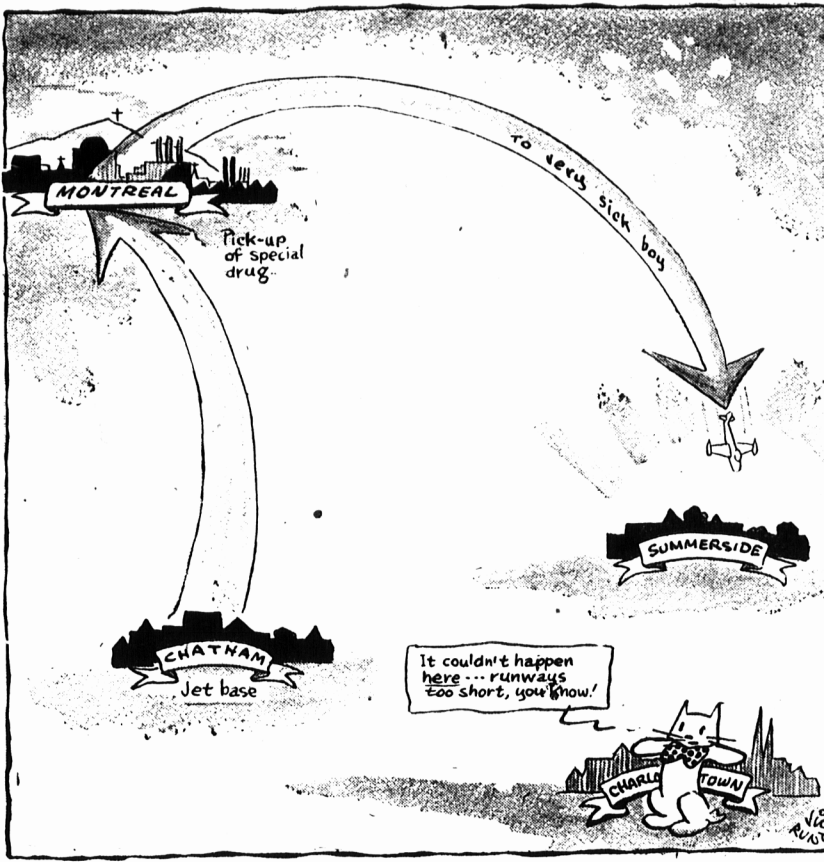
On national health insurance the medical profession may have to choose what it deems the lesser of two evils. Worse than mere compulsory state medicine, would be state medicine with the medical profession denied a voice in administration.

Saturday closing for Charlottetown banks which will be effective from the middle of this month is in line with the trend elsewhere. Until cows can be induced to go on a five-day week, however, as pointed out by Senator Jones, the farm section of our population will unfortunately be unable to join the trend.

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery has criticized newsmen for writing adversely about Canada's 27th brigade in Germany. Such opinions, he believes, should have been voiced to the chief of staff or the minister concerned. These responsible individuals, however, have their proper sources of information. The press is responsible for informing the general public of conditions as they can be observed.

The Great Fire of London broke out this date 1666 and raged until the 6th. Starting in a bakery in Pudding Lane, it devastated 400 streets, 13,200 houses, St. Paul's Cathedral, 89 parish churches, the Guildhall and numerous public buildings and halls. There were practically no casualties, but 200,000 people were made homeless. Wren wished to lay out the city on a great overall plan but it was rebuilt almost on the same foundations.

Errand Of Mercy In An Age Of Speed



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.

IMITATION VERSUS ORIGINALITY

Sir,—I was obliged to close my discussion of Aug. 27, because other duties called me from the pen. With your permission I shall continue it to the climax I had in mind.

My conclusive opinion, that natural genius was beyond the jurisdiction of educationists, to accept or reject, left imitation in its own artificial field to be used or discarded, as one of the principal tools of education. For my part I prefer to retain it as one of my servants until I find a better instrument to supplant it.

At this moment we might ask, "what exactly is the purpose and end of imitation? What does the true creature artist get as a student from imitating the work of other artists? Why not at once without ado, begin his own creative work—the painter for example? Why should he go to college, study, read, imitate and practice for years, when he might begin at once with his own genius?"

Because, painting like all other forms of art has rules that have been discovered and worked out by former artists, with arduous effort and study, and that are short cuts to expression in forms of art. The laws of Perspective, for example, set forth by the Greeks. True, the artist, with originality accidentally discovered this law, as also, those governing the reflection of light and shadow, but it is a great help in the modern genius to learn these at college rather than spend speeding modern hours unearthing them for himself.

These rules and laws are numerous in all arts, and while they form the mathematics, or framework of art, they are as indispensable to natural expression in music, painting, writing, etc. as the frame of a church, to the finished structure. Can you imagine one of those beautiful French Cathedrals having been built without a plan, or frame?

What then is the purpose of imitation? Simply a handy means of learning rules that have been tested and sharpened as tools so that they may be ready at hand when the moment arrives when he wishes to do creative work for himself.

If it is a painting, he will have learned the laws of perspective, light and shadow, colour blending, contrasting, harmony of colour, balance, etc. and to these he will add his own original creative art, his personality and sense of harmony in thought.

Suppose he is an author, he will have learned to spell, capitalize and use his Grammar rules, as well as those governing clarity in composition, often called Syntax. But especially his Grammar, which forms the basic framework of mathematics, of his language. Grammar is a science indeed. The science of building a language. Again the cathedral would poorly display itself without its foundation framework, by a carefully drawn plan.

But if he would study music, again he will do much better with his natural genius, if he has first learned the laws governing rhythm, sound, Guido's scale of notes, vibrations, and their relation to pitch, the mathematical laws and forms for beat, etc.

We cannot say that these mathematical laws and rules cannot be improved upon or changed. There may be better ways of writing, painting, or sounding our arts but of one thing we are sure, it will be the work of the mathematician, or the scientist to discover these better ways, not the artist. Generally, however, the scientific thinker and artist are combined. Should I am not authority on the Bible, but I differ with Minor Saxon

The Age Old Story

The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

I say "generally"? It must have been so, for the Greeks, who, being artists gifted in expression of beauty in colour, sound, and languages, found also the mathematical laws and rules that became the basic framework for later art. The rainbow maybe God's work of art, but behind it, and in it, lie the laws of science that produce it, or give it shape, the framework, built by God on which to hang this gorgeous mantle of light.

It is true that human nature, tends to extremities in all things; like inertia in science, once in motion it prefers to remain so and go too far, if not arrested by some power of thought, at rest it prefers to remain at rest. Wisdom alone strikes the happy medium in all things. Of Grammar we might say this wisdom, if at work at all, missed its mark. Grammar is the mathematics or framework of our language. Without this carefully planned foundation, it would be very difficult to rise to heights of art in the use of language as a medium of expression.

Again the Greeks and Romans come to our aid and have passed on to us a pattern that is amazingly simple and clear; a pattern which, though simplified and adjusted to the various European languages, English, Spanish, French, Italian, etc., still retains its basic standard laws, parts of speech, tense, mood, case, etc. The imitator can get on splendidly without his Grammar because he can imitate others, copy no end, but the lingual artist, the creative genius, will not be content to do this. He prefers, naturally, only the mathematical frame, the rules or tools, with which he may express himself and his own ideals of art.

In earlier years, however, more attention was given to Grammar than today because of the absence of reading matter, radios, and the numerous mechanical language devices at our command in the present.

From 1500 A. D. down to 1900, the student was practically required to take his language apart word by word, jumble it and put it together again by a set of rules. There was little else for him to learn in school in those days, in Europe. Besides the student from 1500 on had, as his basic studies, Latin and Greek literature of the Renaissance, with the patterned Grammar or science of the structure of languages—not the art of the structure. Without a thorough knowledge of the Grammar used as a pattern or framework for English, study of these languages and reading of the Renaissance literature, would have been impossible.

The Bible and Shakespeare are typical examples of the most elegant use of the rules of Grammar, employed by these famous artists of production. And how beautifully they have adorned this scientific framework! To what ecstasies of grandeur they have risen to embellish with their own thoughts, this borrowed frame of science of words—could they have given us these works of undying beauty without a well planned structure to fit their genius upon? The Greeks and Romans? They made their own. They had the two types of culture, the "thinker" and the artist.

I am not authority on the Bible, but I differ with Minor Saxon

The Poet's Corner

THE RUNAWAY

Once when the snow of the year was beginning to fall, We stopped by a mountain pasture to say, "Whose colt?" A little Morgan had one forefoot on the wall, The other curled at his breast. He dipped his head And snorted to us. And then he had to bolt.

We heard the miniature thunder where he fled, And we saw him, or thought we saw him, dim and gray, Like a shadow against the curtain of falling flakes. "I think the little fellow's afraid of the snow. He isn't winter-broken. It isn't play With the little fellow at all. He's running away. I doubt if even his mother could tell him, 'Snakes. It's only weather.' He'd think she didn't know! Where is his mother? He can't be out alone."

And now he comes again with a clatter of stone And mounts the wall again with whited eyes And all his tail that isn't hair up straight. He shudders his coat as if to throw off flies, "Whoever it is that leaves him out so late, When other creatures have gone to stall and bin, Ought to be told to come and take him in."

—Robert Frost.

In interpreting the teachings of "Christ versus the Pharisees." As I read it, the Pharisees "believed" they were fulfilling the law to the letter, but as a matter of fact, they had misunderstood the law and "corrupted" it so that when they thought they were following it to the letter, they were really breaking it. They were formalists. True, but their formalism was a misconception of the law.

Christ said "I come not to destroy but to fulfill." The Pharisees were not "fulfilling" the law. I know of no place in the Bible where Christ let down the bars of the law. He did correct the errors of formalism that corrupted the law by displacing kindness.

Formalism, in Grammar is not so necessary today as it was from 1500 to 1900, but pretty clothes are not much use if we can't find a wearer to display them.

If there is a leaning from the happy medium between too much formalism and none at all, quoting from several Professors of English in several universities, I would say the over balance is towards "none at all."

In conclusion, I feel that formal scientific laws and rules are inseparable from art, as the frame of a cathedral from its outward adornments.

But, we must not forget, that the laws and scientific rules governing art in every age—the formalisms—have given way to originality—when and where they have tended to intercept harmony or rhythm for vividness and truth.

The seventeenth and eighteenth centuries made some attempt to tie the genius and originality down to rules and laws. Need I reiterate the result? Oh, dear, oh dear, oh dear, I fear. The pendulum has swung too far! They've burst the bands of formalism— I dread the abyss of confusion.

I am, Sir, etc.

ULRIC GREINA, Scotland (CP) — Belinda, a four-year-old cow, caused a mile-long traffic jam on the main Dumfries-Criddle highway when she gave birth to a calf on the road.

Notes By The Way

Don't look now, but in Winter an X-ray investigation might reveal that many men and women still keep themselves warm with long underwear. The remaining market for longies is said to be "sizeable" by a leading manufacturer of artificial textile fibre. Twelve manufacturers are said to be making underwear with the stuff, which is mothproof, warm and soft. —Philadelphia Bulletin.

The most decisive moment in picking up a bad habit is the first moment. The decisive crime in the making of a criminal is the first, perhaps not-too-serious, breach of the law. With both the bad habit and the crime, it is so tempting to say: "Just this once"—but once can easily become twice, three three times, four times; and the pattern is set. It can wait until tomorrow and "just this once"—they are dangerous sentences. They postpone the good things, they encourage the bad. There is an old saying: "Well begun is half done." —from an editorial for young people, Hamilton Spectator.

Almost simultaneous reports from two widely separated quarters tend to emphasize the fact of the passing of an older and more picturesque age. In London, the Times' correspondence columns have rung with complaints about the disappearance of the carnation boutonniere, that "badge of breeding" of the boulevardier; and from Canberra, on the other side of the world, comes the news that the Australian diplomatic service is to be stream-lined to meet the needs of an ever-changing world. Here is the disappearance of two aspects of an older, more elegant and more leisurely age, an age characterized in diplomacy by the faultless copper-plate writing of reports, as in the haute monde by the inevitable boutonniere. Today the diplomatic use of the quill pen has given place to the use of the typewriter and the telegram, while the traditional white carnation is no longer economically feasible. —Halifax Chronicle Herald.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) WOOD ISLANDS, BREAKWATER "The construction of this important public work was commenced by Mr. John M. Stewart on the 12th of May last and satisfactorily completed on the 15th of August, for the sum of \$1,000. We have been credibly informed that the workmanship is very substantial, and strictly in accordance with the plan and specification laid down by the Department of Public Works. It has been erected at Victoria Harbour, Wood Islands. The dimensions of this work are, length 350 feet, width 22 feet, which gives 8 feet of water at the outer end at high tide, and at present affords shipping facilities for vessels of small tonnage.

Farmers residing in Wood Islands, Belle Creek, Little Sandy, and Rona, who formerly were compelled to haul their produce to Montague Bridge, a distance of upwards of sixteen miles, are now enabled to ship their grain with far less labor and expense in their own neighborhood. The proposed extension of 700 feet, if erected, would give vessels of average tonnage ample accommodation, which we believed will be accomplished at an early day. The government dredge allowing for disadvantage low water, rendered good service in that locality this summer." —King's County Advertiser, Sept. 19, 1913.

A New York department store asks all its applicants for jobs "What happened to your last one?" Here are some of the answers: "Just because I gained fifty pounds while packing candy, the boss insisted I was eating too much." "I was secretary to a big oil man, but his shoes squeaked and he always wore white socks and a red satin tie. I ask you, how much can a person stand?" "I was driving a cab in Florida because my wife wanted to spend the winter on the beach—but she divorced me to marry a lifeguard, when they hailed me and got into my taxi to go to their wedding, I slammed the door and walked away." "I asked the boss to lend me a dollar but he only gave me fifty cents." —From N. Y. Times.

Our correspondence columns have been carrying a stimulating discussion on tastes in music. Naturally if not entirely logically it ranged the classic and popular schools against each other, with the former assuming "culture" on its side and the latter almost willfully repudiating it. We doubt if they can be divided that easily, since many of our so-called classic have simply immortalized the thematic substance supplied by the people; and that which proves ageless out of today's compositions

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