

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, NOV. 13, 1952

Cheaper Schools

Concerned about Canada's problem of providing more school accommodation at reasonable cost, the Windsor Star suggests that perhaps we could learn some lessons from the United Kingdom where they are also faced with mounting building costs.

Over there the Ministry of Education just stepped in and ordered that new primary schools must not cost more than £140 per pupil. Some schools are already being built by the Government in co-operation with the local authorities and certain private enterprises.

The United Kingdom has to import aluminum, mostly from Canada. We are inclined to agree with the Star that in this country we probably have not given enough study to the reduction of building costs.

European Nuclear Research

One of the world's greatest centres of research into the nature of matter and of energy is to be established in Geneva, during the next seven years. The building of the centre was decided upon at a recent meeting in Amsterdam of the European Council for Nuclear Research, consisting of representatives of ten European nations: Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, German Federal Republic, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The plan is to build a powerful accelerator for protons which will be rated at 30 thousand million electron volts — the most powerful atom whirler in existence. This machine will be capable of producing artificial cosmic rays. All these researches are designed to explore the structure of the atomic nucleus, the nature of the fundamental particles and the relations between these particles and energy.

All the work will be non-military. All results will be freely published and will be available to the use of all the countries who participate. One of its major purposes is to enable young European scientists to obtain training in this new field of science, in which the equipment and apparatus is so expensive that no single European country could hope to build an adequate institution.

The Taxpayers' Money

One of the big chores facing Parliament when it reassembles should be a thorough inquiry into the substantial economies which the Senate report of a few months ago claimed could be made into many departments of government without interference with necessary public services.

In a 10-month period orders for boots and shoes for the armed forces totalled \$15,292,241—roughly 1,300,000 pairs of shoes for fewer than 100,000 men, or more than 10 pairs of shoes per man.

partment had placed orders for 1,150,000 neckties—about a dozen neckties per man (recently, Mr. Blakely shows, a further order for neckties was placed totalling \$22,785).

The Defence Department ordered 62,000 "serving forks"—three for every five men in uniform. After questions were asked in Parliament the order was scaled down to 40,000 forks. After further questions were asked in Parliament the Defence Department decided it could get along with 14,500 serving forks.

A recent Defence Department buying list ranged from paper napkins (\$11,036), more neckties (\$12,731), buses (\$500,069) and boots (\$133,361) to shaving brushes (\$49,000) lamps (\$25,000) and "nylon tafeta cloth" (\$20,115).

Concluded Mr. Blakely: "Orders for furniture have been large. Office equipment contracts have been out of this world. Photographic equipment and supplies have drawn an honorable mention in almost every (buying) list. Tucked away in a corner of one list is one \$147,232 contract for—so it says—the 'packaging of plumbing fixtures.' There's been a run, recently, on 'firemen's coats'.

It is for Parliament to probe further charges of this kind and obtain satisfactory answers from the responsible minister. In this case it is not a matter of skimming on necessary defense expenditures, but of seeing that the taxpayers get their full money's worth.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Town of Summerside lost no time in making an offer for the former Post Office building. Building costs being what they are, the opportunity of getting relatively inexpensive space could hardly be passed up.

All power to the newly organized community improvement group of Charlottetown citizens. Official action can do much to keep a community up to certain minimum standards but there is room for such an unofficial organization to stimulate both private improvements and general ones.

A new system of taxes is in the making for individual farm households of Yugoslavia. Instead of being based on actual income the assessment will be on "an average yield under ordinary methods of cultivation." In other words if production is permitted to fall off, the proportion which goes to the state goes up accordingly.

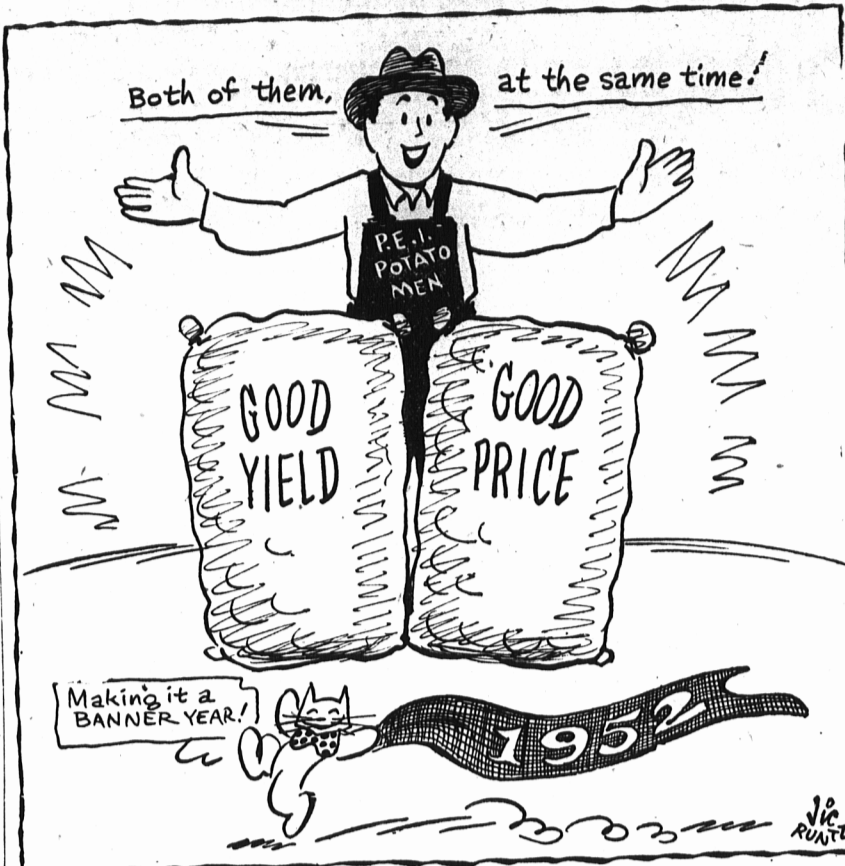
Edward John Trelawny, English traveller and writer, was born this date 1792. In 1822 he met Shelley and Byron in Italy. When Shelley drowned after his boat had foundered it was Trelawny who after many days found the body and cremated it on the seashore in the presence of Byron. He published a number of volumes of memoirs stressing the episodes connected with the two friends.

Radiant heating is one of the newer wrinkles developed by American heating engineers but the arrangement in Korean houses described by Major Andrew MacRae would seem to be an application of the same principle. A trench is dug diagonally across the floor and covered with brick or other material. A fire burns at one end and a stovepipe is fitted at the other. The family then sleep on a well-warmed floor.

Islanders are glad to see the contract let for a new ship to operate from Yarmouth, N. S., to Bar Harbour, Maine. As the Minister of Transport predicts, it will probably "add considerable impetus to the interchange of traffic between Nova Scotia and the New England States and will attract tourist traffic to the Maritimes." At the same time there is a feeling here that it is time we derived the more immediate benefit from an additional ferry on the Borden-Tormentine route.

"The Seventh Assembly of the United Nations," says the London Spectator, "may be critical for the future of the Organisation. Its best asset is its President. No statesman has so steadily increased in stature over the past five years as Mr. Lester Pearson. From the day when he joined the Department of External Affairs at Ottawa to the day when he became Canadian Secretary of State twenty years later he has exhibited the same combination of vigour, discernment and common sense. It is not easy to exert leadership in the United Nations Assembly, and the President of such a body is not always in the best position to do that. But so far as it can be done Mr. Pearson can be counted on to do it."

Nicely Bagged



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.

PRESIDENT YEO REPLIES

Sir:—I wish to make a reply to some criticism appearing in the press recently. The question is raised why I have not answered sooner, and I can say that I do not consider the press the appropriate place to settle a controversy; I feel that nothing can be gained by critical arguments.

In our Federation of Agriculture we have met repeatedly with Mr. Wheatley to discuss his problem. However, he has never approached us with signed statements as to whether his plant will stand inspection, whether he can get inspection of his product, whether the City of Charlottetown wished the establishment of such a plant, etc.

Mr. Wheatley cannot see fit to use more diplomatic methods to unite different groups that are definitely interested in improving livestock marketing.

Much of his criticism of me has had no connection with his problem and has only been used to encourage criticism of the Federation. If we remember back, he used the same undiplomatic approach on the Government prior to a provincial election, and also on Mr. Roland MacDonald immediately before a party convention.

He has asked for resolutions from the Queen's and King's semi-annual meetings of July, 1951. The King's resolution asked that a committee of Government, Federation, and shippers be formed to study the Newfoundland trade. This has been done. Whether or not the new shipping service we have with Newfoundland has any connection with these meetings I am not prepared to say.

"I will table my reasons shortly." "Thanking you in advance for this consideration." "I remain, "Sincerely yours, Woodrow Wheatley"

If we study this letter we find the word "discontinue". Apparently at the time of writing Mr. Wheatley was satisfied that we were working on his behalf. He has never tabled his reasons, and why he has had a change in attitude since this time I do not know.

I will state here and now that the Federation is more than willing to discuss and support any project that will be of any advantage to our Island farmers. I regret being compelled to take this action and must say that I do not intend to continue this controversy in the press indefinitely.

I am, Sir, etc. CHARLES H. YEO, President, P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture

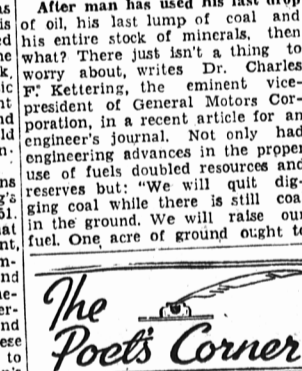
Notes By The Way

Many Canadian Liberals are wondering, as they study the outcome of the U. S. election, whether they see it that famous Handwriting on the Wall—Ottawa Journal.

Telephone companies always have a number of phones that are not listed in the directories. Even Prime Minister Winston Churchill could not get through to one of these in England. He wanted to tell Sir William G. Penney that he had been knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his work in atomic science. But, the scientist has an unlisted phone and even Mr. Churchill could not pry the number out of the supervisor.

A mint corner block of four of the 2 1/2 d. British Silver Jubilee stamp of 1952 in the rare Prussian blue shade was sold for £340 at Robson Lowe's Pall Mall Rooms. The stamps came from one of three sheets of 120 of a trial printing which was never intended for sale to the public; in error they were included in supplies sent to a North London post office and at once attracted the attention of philatelists, with the result that today they command the price indicated by this realization.

After man has used his last drop of oil, his last lump of coal and his entire stock of minerals, then what? There just isn't a thing to worry about, writes Dr. Charles F. Kettering, the eminent vice-president of General Motors Corporation, in a recent article for an engineering journal. Not only had engineering advances in the proper use of fuels doubled resources and reserves but: "We will still dig coal in the ground. We will raise our fuel. One acre of ground ought to



COUNTY FAIR

Now comes fruition in well-ordered rows. Here sit the pumpkins solemn, yellow, bold, Beside the corn whose grains are chiseled gems And apples proud in coats of red and gold.

Great roosters stretch their copper-colored wings. Huge hogs view men with questions in their eyes. A ring-necked bull chews slowly on his cud. A thick-wooled sheep looks bored despite his prize.

The midway draws the boys from rustic homes. They shoot at metal fox or dove or duck.

Throw rings at walking cane or bowie knife Or spin the lighted wheel misnamed "Good Luck."

With this display the planter's year now ends; Rich proof that he and nature are good friends.

—Emory C. Pharr, in the Washington Star.

The Age-Old Story

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me; and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you... Simon Peter said unto him, Lord whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

POLICE STATION BENCHES

'By request of some civic body, the benches were removed from the Police Station on Saturday week. Subsequently they were replaced, and today we learn an order has been given to remove them again, and leave nothing but three stationary chairs. Now this action, we can not who is at the bottom of it, is, to say the least, meant. No one but a silly busybody would be a party to it.

If the police do not perform their regular work, removing a few hard benches from the station will effect but a small reformation. In other cities the police stations are furnished with lounges, on which the officers may rest, after weary hours of duty. But here they are denied the comfort of a hard bench, six inches broad.

—The Examiner, March 28, 1881.

GREAT BAY

Hudson Bay is more than 1,000 miles from north to south, and 600 miles across at its widest part.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

WILL IT HAPPEN HERE?

"The same thing will happen here when the time comes!" So remarked a neighbor the day after the United States election. I expect there are many people throughout Canada who take a similar view. In the Eisenhower victory they see a ray of hope for their own political ambitions. Specifically, they are of the opinion that it is only a matter of a year or so before there will be a brand new administration in Ottawa and it will be called Conservative.

Time, which has done a lot of stranger things before now, may justify their optimism, but if I were a Conservative strategist I should require something a bit more substantial than the result of an American election to guide me in making any prediction at this early date.

Political conditions and issues here are never quite the same as they are in the United States. For example, corruption in government is always an issue in any American election, Federal, State, County, or Municipal. It takes various forms from time to time but the basic criticism is generally the same. The outs are sure that the ins are a bad, bad lot. What is more, they can usually find ample evidence to support their allegations, to their own satisfaction and that of their partisans, that is. Any opposition candidate who forgot to charge the administration with corruption would be considered useless, a very novice.

Over here it has been a long time since the cry of corruption had any telling influence in elections. This may or may not have a connotation but, in any case, the holding of public office is not considered with us the "open sesame" to graft and avarice. There is undoubtedly a good deal of ineptness and mediocrity in the present administration but I do not think that any responsible critic would use the adjective "corrupt" in speaking of Mr. St. Laurent or any of his colleagues.

"It's time for a change!" has always been favourite slogan of individuals and groups in opposition to the party for the time being in office. And when any party has been dominant for many years a change may be a good thing. Not that some other party will necessarily make a more capable administration. In fact, the difference between the basic policies of the two major parties in this country is very slight. But long tenures in any field, political or other, tend to create indifference and apathy.

Early freshness is likely to give way to the staleness of routine, in damage to wise government. A man who has been elected over and over again does not necessarily develop a bias towards corruption but, unless he happens to be a particularly dedicated man, he is likely to develop a bias towards carelessness.

This, of course, is one of the risks which any democratic society must be prepared to assume. From the standpoint of utility it might conceivably be a good thing to set limits to the number of years any

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Advertisement for professional services including Matheson, Peake & Nicholson (Barristers, Solicitors), W. J. P. MacMillan (M.D.), H. A. MacMillan (M.D.), Bell, Mathieson & Foster (Barristers, Solicitors), Gaudet & Haszard (Barristers and Solicitors), MacPhee & Trainor (Barristers, Etc.), Byron J. Grant, O.D. (Optometrist), J. A. Carruthers, R.C. (Optometrist), Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. (Barrister, Solicitor), H. R. Doane & Company (Chartered Accountants), and McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants).