

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1950

"Panicky Bellicosity"?

External Affairs Minister Pearson says Canadians should avoid "panicky bellicosity" in their attitude towards the Korean war. Silly utterances of this sort are enough to make thoughtful citizens wonder whether Mr. Pearson is not being a trifle smug. For a country with Canada's record in two world wars is scarcely likely to become either panicky or bellicose overnight at the grim prospect of a third great struggle.

Fact of the matter is that what Mr. Pearson chooses to describe as "panicky bellicosity" is, in reality, something even more disquieting, and that is the feeling, as yet not too clearly expressed, that Canada is not pulling her weight in the Korean crisis. On more than one occasion in recent months, the External Affairs Minister has declared that the cornerstone of Canadian foreign policy is the United Nations. He can, therefore, scarcely complain if people wonder at the Government's disinclination to respond to the first call for aid the UN has made to this country, the request for ground forces.

What Mr. Pearson does not seem to grasp is that the conscience of the Canadian people is troubled. Not because UN has received no ground forces. Not because the material assistance in terms of destroyers for "police action" in Korean waters, and R.C.A.F. transport planes for the Pacific airlift is insignificant. It is not, Canadians are troubled because their American cousins are dying bravely in what may be the prelude to a struggle for survival, while the manpower of this country waits for a sign.

Paradox of the present situation is that while American public opinion lagged behind the far-sighted wisdom of the late President Roosevelt until the last vestiges of isolationist sentiment were shattered by Pearl Harbour, today in Canada it is the Government which lags behind public opinion.

A Minister of the Crown who unwittingly or otherwise mistakes the clear call of conscience for "panicky bellicosity" is unworthy of the high office which he holds.

Welcome Rotary President

Prince Edward Island and the Charlottetown and Summerside Rotary Clubs in particular have as their very welcome guests, Rotary International President Arthur Lagueux and Mrs. Lagueux.

This is the first time we have ever been favoured by a visit while in office of an International President of Rotary which comprises some seven thousand clubs covering every democratic country in the world. The previous President travelled over 200,000 miles visiting 70 nations. Rotarian Lagueux became President July 1st and has not no time in taking advantage of his position to see the best first.

Rotarian Lagueux, a native of Quebec, is an able successor of the eminent men who have preceded him in office, and one who will do much to spread the ideals of his club and increase its numbers. Already he has asked that a new club be formed for every day in the present Rotary year. If his rate of expansion can be maintained and the resulting friendships made between clubs of different nations, Rotary will be an even greater influence for goodwill and understanding among the nations. The difficulty seems to be that whenever a country becomes subject to a dictatorship all international organizations are pushed out, a difficulty which makes it impractical for Mr. Lagueux to include in his itinerary any of the countries in which the doctrine of friendship and goodwill might most effectively be preached.

Whistling in the Dark

The top brass of Canadian socialism meets this week in Vancouver. Some 200 members of the C. C. F. party are expected to attend the biennial convention in the British Columbian metropolis.

Korean crisis gives the C. C. F.'ers a superb opportunity to thump the drums of patriotism and demand fuller support from Canada for the United Nations. Fact that the Government's position is still not entirely clear, particularly in respect of providing ground forces, will give the socialists a chance to indulge in rhetoric designed to prove that they are more anti-communist than any other party in the country.

This is all to the good. It shows that even socialists are able to learn the hard

lessons of history. For, back in 1939, it was Mr. Coldwell and his followers who opposed all thought of Canada sending her forces overseas.

Trouble is it took the grim toll of war to convince Mr. Coldwell that a foreign policy based on ostrich-like isolationism could lead only to disaster. Unfortunate thing is that despite the changed C. C. F. outlook in external affairs, party policy in economic matters remains unchanged. Fortunately, the Canadian electorate does not seem disposed to allow Mr. Coldwell to effect his own conversion by turning over to him the affairs of state so that he might test the folly of the socialist planned economy. If they did, Mr. Coldwell would soon discover that the fallacies of his economic policy would be quickly as apparent as were the fallacies of his foreign policy in 1939.

Thoughtful citizens who follow the despatches from Vancouver will be unlikely to fall into the error of believing that because C. C. F. party leader Coldwell and his followers are loyal Canadians committed to fight communism, the economic policies which he advocates would be any less disastrous than the foreign policy which he urged upon Parliament in 1939.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Feast of Ste. Anne.

Summerside is being boosted deservedly by the Standard weekly as the wealthiest small town in Canada.

It will be noted among the pall-bearers at the MacKenzie King State funeral is a Charlottetonian, Dr. G. R. Brow, physician-in-chief, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal.

Schools all over the Province are being better cared for than for many a day. It may be merely a coincidence that the improvement comes after the wives of rate-payers are allowed to vote.

Amateur cameramen have been dubbed "camerists" as a result of a recent contest in the United States. The word may catch on and become accepted—but dictionaries, if they mention it at all, are likely to follow it by the contemptuous (rare).

Canada is rapidly moving toward a tremendous industrial future. That considered opinion is expressed in a full-length article, entitled "It's Easier To Get Rich In Canada," about the Dominion, which is featured in the August issue of The American Magazine.

Current developments in fresh fish processing and handling will enable people in inland cities to enjoy sea-fresh sea-foods. The object is to stimulate the fishing industry but it could at the same time give further impetus to the growth of those inland centres of population.

Grandma never grows old, declares the Montreal Gazette. A French-Canadian matriarch of 74 was dissatisfied with the care her doctor was giving her. She visited a famous U. S. clinic, which advised a minor operation, agreeing that it be done in Montreal. Her children protested at the idea, but she persisted. She was discharged from hospital after two weeks and is now visiting friends on the Maine coast. She drove there alone in her own car! Who said life begins at forty?

George Bernard Shaw, British critic and dramatist, born this date 1856. His name is a household word all over the world as an eccentric, but he has a long list of literary and dramatic works to his credit. His novels include "The Irrational Knot", "An Unsocial Socialist"; his plays, "Plays", "Pleasant and Unpleasant", "Man and Superman", "Getting Married", "Fanny's First Play", "The Music Cure", "Augustus Does His Bit", "Heartbreak House"; his essays and tracts, "Fabian Essays", "The Quintessence of Ibsenism", "Socialism and Superior Brains." He is an intellectual and theoretic socialist, but not a whole-hearted believer in Marxism.

The most delightful Robert Burns story is in the rich history of the Royal Tower of the Palace of Clackmannan. It relates to Burns and the irresistible Katherine Bruce, the widow of the last laird, then a lady of over ninety. Burns was at that time apparently suffering from unrequited love when he rode over to Clackmannan from Harvieston, near Dollar. According to Lockhart, "At Clackmannan Tower, the poet's Jacobitism procured him a hearty welcome from the ancient lady of the place, who gloried in considering herself as a lineal descendant of Robert Bruce. She bestowed on Burns what knighthood the touch of the hero's sword could confer." The sword and helmet of the great King Robert, preserved so long in the Tower, are now in the possession of the Earl of Elgin. There is a story that when Burns knelt on one knee to kiss her hand before leaving, this wonderful old woman, with a twinkle in her eye, said, "What ails ye wi' my mou'?"

Misadventures Of Hamlet Hoptardy



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FAIR ON QUEEN SQUARE

The importance attaching to sheep breeding a century ago is illustrated in the following newspaper comments on an exhibition by the Royal Agricultural Society on Queen Square, Charlottetown, Sept. 26, 1855:

"The Exhibition was tolerably fair, not in many respects equal to what we have previously witnessed, with the exception of the article of sheep. The Island is acquiring, and deservedly too, a reputation for superior excellence in the breed of this useful and profitable animal. Our farmers have become fully alive to the importance of not only keeping the breed pure, but of improving it as much as possible, by judicious alterations with new importations from the Motherland.

"Wool and skins are getting to be a considerable item in our list of exports, and we trust they will continue to increase, until the day comes when both will be needed for our domestic manufacture. The skins would, we believe, find a ready sale in the domestic market, but as the separation of the wool from the pelt is deteriorating to both, in a commercial view, they must, for a while, be sent away together.

"We have been pleased to hear, from various quarters, of the estimation in which the Island sheep are held in the neighbouring countries, and we trust that it will be kept up to the time when the Island shall be connected with the Main by means of floating bridges in the shape of daily steam-boats, and then a lively traffic for the animals themselves for the purposes of stock will be certain to take place.

"Among the horn-cattle on exhibition, we had pointed out to us a two and a-half year old heifer raised by G. W. DeBolt Esq., a short-horned Durham, and certainly a fine, well-shaped, well-conditioned animal, remarkably large for its age. Those well qualified to pronounce on its merits did not hesitate to declare that the one in question would have commanded admiration at any cattle show in Britain.

"There was a greater number of horses than there has been for some time exhibited, but we are not aware of anything very superior being on the ground.

"The species of swine was not so good as we might have expected, but we do not attach much importance to this circumstance. When very large, they are proportionately unwieldy, and not being disciples of the passive obedience and non-resistance doctrine, are usually troublesome, and consequently difficult to be brought from any distance. The carcasses of most of them will be submitted to public inspection about Christmas, when we shall be better able to judge of their respective claims to preference.

"We shall be glad, however, when some more fitting site on which to hold the Exhibition shall be provided. A public square in the centre of the City should be a space for the admission of pure air, and should be enclosed and planted with trees, that it might serve others as a place of recreation, where the very young and old, and females, might take exercise and enjoyment free from the apprehension of danger.

The judges at the above-mentioned exhibition were, for sheep, Mr. Kennedy, Brackley Point Road, Mr. Mutch, W. W. Irving; for horses, Captain Rice, Charles Hazard, William Swabey, Jr.; for cattle, Alexander Laird, John Thorne, George Smith.

The report notes that although the Square presented "a lively and animated scene," the action of the Mayor in giving notice respecting the sale of intoxicating liquor had its due effect in lessening the number of drunken or disorderly persons. "The day passed over with less disturbance than we at one time apprehended, from the miscellaneous assemblage that presented itself to our view. The only disturbance that took place was promptly put down by the timely interference of the new Police."

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Old-Age Dependency

(Bank of Nova Scotia News Letter)

How large the burden of old-age dependency actually is depends not only on how much of current output society sees fit to divert in the interests of the old but also on how well the productive capacities of older people are used. In recent years more and more thought and research have been devoted to the process of aging. The conclusion reached are often tentative, but they suggest that many accepted ideas about older people have been wrong.

It is now widely recognized that a person's functional age is by no means the same as his chronological age. Some are as young biologically at 70 as others at 50. Frequently elderly people prefer to remain in jobs beyond the retirement age and it is often conducive to their health and happiness to do so. The compulsory withdrawal of such people from productive employment is a waste of manpower, and to the extent that older people continue to be usefully employed the burden of old-age dependency is reduced.

Even more important than the question of work for persons beyond the usual retirement age is that of using to full advantage a working force that contains an increasing proportion of workers over 45.

Here, too, it appears that many popular beliefs require revision. It is often said, for instance, that older workers are less productive than younger ones, that they are less adaptable in learning new techniques, that they lose more time through illness, and that the accident rate for them is higher. Studies have shown that the last of these allegations is quite erroneous: the accident rate is generally higher for young workers than those 45 to 60. Illnesses are likely to be of longer duration among older people but frequency of absence from all causes is less.

The extent to which the ability to learn is reduced after middle age appears also to have been greatly exaggerated. A number of investigations have disclosed that old dogs can learn new tricks—the ability to learn declines only slowly with age, and the apparent inability to learn is often due to lack of practice, or to discouragement, loss of interest, and other psychological factors. The question of productivity is more complicated. There appears to be good ground for believing that certain physiological changes take place in the forties which

The Age-Old Story

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken spirit and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

reduce speed, agility and strength, though there are great variations among individuals. But often what is lost in speed of reaction and muscular strength is offset by increased skill, experience, judgment and dependability. The problem is, through rearrangement of duties, retraining programs and other methods, to place older workers in jobs fitted to their capabilities.

It is quite possible, too, that as more is learned about the process of aging, and as progress is made in combatting the diseases particularly characteristic of middle and old age, the productive capacity of the older portion of the population may increase notably. How far the impairments and infirmities commonly associated with old age are avoidable and how far they are natural accompaniments of the advancing of the life cycle is still far from clear.

Medical opinion increasingly believes, for instance, that much of the mental disease among the old which is placing a growing burden on mental institutions is caused by conditions in their environment and could be prevented. The attention of medical and public health authorities is more and more centered on the so-called "chronic" diseases, which have replaced the infectious disease as the leading causes of illness and death.

With the growth of research into the causes of these diseases, with the development of public health programs designed to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment, and with the provision of more adequate hospital facilities, the amount of incapacity resulting from them may well be reduced.

The readjustments necessitated by the changing age structure of the population are both economic and social. In the older countries the economic problem is extremely serious. In Canada with her growing population, expanding economy and increasing productivity, the economic problem is more manageable. Indeed, the social problem may prove even more difficult than the economic problem—to find a satisfactory place in society for an increasing

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Notes By The Way

Ideally, the reporter for radio and generally attractive plan has been drawn up for the construction of five apartment houses, each to contain eight apartments, in which citizens coming under the above categories (and others, if sufficient accommodation is available) will live at rents ranging from \$22 to around \$26 a month. —Owen Sound Sun-Times

The British Admiralty suspects malice prompted placing of sand in submarine engine. It certainly wasn't a god-will gesture. —London Free Press.

American license plates continue to leave us slightly confused. In some instances they are more specific than the Canadian markers with the names of the city as well as the state appearing on the plates. And then there are the markers which contain no number at all — just letters, or maybe the driver's name. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

Diplomats, soldiers, sailors, schoolmasters are all mewed up in their own separate compounds—close corporations in which they only meet people of a particular kind—usually their own kind. But the politician's lot is cast among all sorts and conditions of men and women. In the service of a common cause, rich and poor work side by side, great men of world-wide fame and distinction rub shoulders with the infinitely obscure and insignificant. —Lady Violet Bonham Carter on BBC Broadcast.

Anything up to a quarter of a million tourists are likely to visit Ottawa's Parliament Building this summer. Most of them will want to be photographed with the red-coated Mountie, who this year has been satisfactorily restored to his horse. And many American camera-clickers might be reminded of L. B. Pearson's speech in California that Canada does not want union with the U. S. "What," he said, "would Hollywood and fiction do if the scarlet-coated RCMP became the Federal Bureau of Arctic Investigation?" —Toronto Saturday Night.

Owen Sound is showing the way to other Canadian communities in correcting one of the most glaring evils of the time — lack of moderately priced living accommodation for old age pensioners, widows drawing monthly allowances and war pensioners. A well-conceived, adequately-financed

proportion of older people. The challenge is to provide more security and opportunity for the older portion of the population without seriously limiting the opportunities of the young, and without creating undue rigidity and discouraging the initiative that makes for progress. In the adjustments that are made a pattern will be set not only for the old, but for the young and for society as a whole.

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