

THE GUARDIAN

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by The Thomson Company Limited.

Home And School

The Home and School Association is more than ten years old in this Province, the first group having been formed at Fredericton. The Provincial organization is having only its second annual meeting this evening and is representative of 24 groups throughout the Island.

In particular the P. E. I. Home and School Association stands ready to help organize the movement in school districts where parents show an interest. A strong Provincial body also gives continuity to the Association's work and provides assistance and guidance which the groups may from time to time need.

It is, perhaps, inevitable that such an organization should adopt particular policies and projects. It is in the nature of all organizations to do so. In this Province, however, it has succeeded in avoiding the danger of becoming a pressure group and is truly an association of parents and teachers earnestly trying to do their part and help others to do likewise.

The vital interest in education today as compared with the comparative neglect in the fairly recent past is undoubtedly due in large measure to the efforts of the Home and School Associations. They have practically dispelled the feeling that the "educational system" is a machine which runs on regardless of individuals and personalities.

Successful Settlement

The Parliamentary Committee on Veterans' Affairs has recently heard a detailed report from Mr. T. J. Rutherford, director under the Veterans' Land Act. The report is encouraging as showing the steady demand for farm settlement among veterans despite the increasing cost of the land, livestock and equipment necessary to set up an economic farm unit.

Mr. Rutherford set out the extent and nature of the settlement work that has been done, together with an estimate of the progress being made by the settlers. At the end of 1953 a total of 30,281 veterans had been helped to establish themselves as full-time farmers, and 328 as commercial fishermen — a grand total of 63,018. This did not include 1,406 Indian veterans settled on reserves, who were looked after by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.

Of the total who had been settled 3,231 had repaid their indebtedness in full and taken title. Another 2,359 had arranged the sale of their properties to other veterans who had qualified for settlement under the act. Most of the veteran-to-veteran sales had been made by small holders who had to move to other districts with a change in their main employment.

Out of the 63,000 settled, 339 had abandoned provincial lands on which they were settled and 1,399 had voluntarily handed their land back to the director by giving quit claim deed. While many of these were potential failures, many other quit claims arose from such causes as death or a veteran's removal to another district. Only 114 veterans had to be put off their properties for non-payment or other non-compliance with their contract. This represented less than two out of every thousand settled.

In spite of the fact that recent trends in farm prices have been downward, and the total number of settlers under the Act has been increasing year by year, the number in "special arrears" dropped substantially each year since 1950. This was a classification adopted for cases requiring careful attention — farmers and commercial fishermen whose accounts are \$200 or more in arrears, and small holders whose accounts are \$100 or more in arrears. In October, 1953, total number of V. L. A. accounts in "special arrears" fell to a low point of 315, or just a little over one-half of one per cent. With reasonable marketing conditions and a continuation of the present trend in collections, Mr. Rutherford

ford thought that the number, after rising meantime, might be down to about 200 in October this year.

The director said most of the credit for the small percentage of failures and the excellent state of collections was attributable to the work being done by the 261 field supervisors. Each field supervisor lived in his own district and worked closely with his settlers whose circumstances, problems and abilities he was in a much better position to understand and appreciate.

Freedom's Road

In his address at Columbia University's bicentennial celebration recently, President Eisenhower made clear his opposition to McCarthyism in maintaining freedom and democracy. The following excerpt is characteristic of the spirit inspiring the President's whole speech:

"Without exhaustive debate—even heated debate—of ideas and programs, free government would weaken and wither. But if we allow ourselves to be persuaded that every individual—or party—that takes issue with our own convictions is necessarily wicked or treasonous—then indeed we are approaching the end of freedom's road.

"Effective support of one idea—like defense of a battle position—requires calm and clear judgment, courage, faith, fortitude. Our dedication to truth and freedom, at home and abroad, does not require—and cannot tolerate—fear, threat, hysteria and intimidation.

"As we preach freedom to others, so we should practice it among ourselves. Then, strong in our own integrity, we will be continuing the revolutionary march of the founding fathers.

"As they roused in mankind the determination to win political freedom from dynastic tyranny, we can ignite in mankind the will to win intellectual freedom from the false propaganda and enforced ignorance of Communist tyranny. Through knowledge and understanding, we will drive from the temple of freedom all who seek to establish over us thought control—whether they be agents of a foreign state or demagogues thirsty for personal power and public notice.

"Truth can make men free! And where men are free to plan their lives, to govern themselves, to know the truth and to understand their fellow men, we believe that there also is the will to live at peace.

"Here, then, in spite of A-bombs, H-bombs, all the cruel destructiveness of modern war; in spite of terror, subversion, propaganda and bribery, we see the key to peace. That key is knowledge and understanding—and their constant use by men everywhere."

EDITORIAL NOTES

That an anchor is a fishermen's best friend was proved again by two Tignish lobstermen whose engine broke down in dense fog Saturday. They rode safely at anchor for 18 hours until a sea and air search resulted in their rescue.

The reaction of United States delegates at Geneva to the observation of the delegation from Communist China that "there is much common ground" on proposed Korean elections, seems to be that the common ground the Chinese premier has in mind is that of having the Communist way.

Sir Samuel White Baker, British explorer, was born this date 1821. Son of a West Indies merchant, he went to Mauritius and in 1846 founded an agricultural settlement in Ceylon. In 1861 he started the explorations of the Nile basin which made him famous. In 1870 the Khedive Ismail appointed him governor-general of the Nile equatorial districts to suppress the slave trade and open up the country for trade. He encountered many difficulties but laid a foundation for his successor General Gordon. He wrote a number of books on the Nile and its tributaries.

"The Wakes" at Selborne—a small village in Hampshire, England—is for sale and a fund is now being raised to buy and endow it and turn it over to the National Trust to keep as a centre of natural history and a museum of the personal effects of Gilbert White—the father of English natural history. The purchase price is \$33,600 and the endowment required is \$36,000 or \$69,600 in all. The appeal is addressed not only to the untold thousands of tourists from overseas who over the years have made their way to Selborne but to the vaster group who know and love Selborne through Gilbert White's book "The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne." More than 200 editions have been published, more editions than any other book in the English language except the Bible and Shakespeare. White died in 1793 and the property is only now available for purchase for memorial purposes.

HOME SCHOOL Association Move members! Suggested Reading CHILDREN, HOW TO LIVE WITH WARDEN LOZZ BEAS SMART AS THEY ARE BACK TO THE WOODS! IF YOU'RE WRITING ON REARING CHILDREN, DO IT BEFORE YOU HAVE ANY... SERIOUSLY, WE TRY.

The Future Is Promising

The Poet's Corner

SEA SHELL Lift out the spiraled shell, Half crushed and sand. Faint wind and water hum To hold in hand. Here is the shape of sea, The rounded lip That curls like curl of wave From crest to dip. Here is sea color, warm As suns that rise Staining comber and trough With pink surprise. Press the far sound of sea To listening ear— O echo of a child Who laughed to hear. A miniature ocean Ebb and swell— Who marvelled at a surf Within a shell. —Gertrude May Lute in the Christian Science Monitor.

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I. LAW STUDENTS

Legislative Assembly, March 29, 1884. On moving the House into committee on a bill entitled "an Act relating to Law Students," Hon. Mr. Sullivan said that it would make provision that law students may attend a Law School in any place outside the limits of the Province. As the law now stands, when a law clerk is articled he must remain in the office of the practitioner with whom he is articled, during a term of five years. At the close of that time, he receives a certificate to that effect. Within a short time past, a good Law School has been established in Halifax, and it has been thought advisable to permit law students at present articled in this Province to attend that school during a certain portion of the five years in which they are engaged in the prosecution of their studies, and to make provision that the time spent there should count as part of the five years. It seemed to him that this would be a great advantage to law students.

Osculating Pigs

Sir Thomas Dugdale, the British Minister of Agriculture, helped open a pig market at Hereford the other day. Sir Thomas explained that the partitions between the pens were made unusually high to prevent the pigs from kissing each other. The osculatory activities of pigs spread swine fever, according to Sir Thomas. We do not know how strong is the urge of one British pig to kiss another British pig. But if it is very strong these partitions better be not only high but sturdy and sunk in concrete. It is our experience that just ordinary partitions do not stop a pig if his—or her—interest in something the other side of a partition is very intense. In no time at all the pig will have rooted a hole and it is just short of miraculous how a 200 pound pig can get through a very small hole. But assuming that Sir Thomas has taken full account of the genius of pigs to get out of their pen, there are other angles that might be considered. What is the emotional effect on a pig when he is prevented from kissing another pig? Does it set up within him complex and inhibitions, perhaps causing him to beat his wife and to grunt crossly at his children? However, whatever the effect it probably does not interfere with the pigs appetite and from Sir Thomas' point of view that is enough to know about the procedure.

WELL-DRESSED TV CREW LONDON. (CP)—All members of the television crew covering the Ascot races this year were morning dress, complete with grey topers and spats. The order applied even to the boy who brought tea for the busy technicians.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Too bad when it takes all kinds of people to make a world that there are not more skilled artisans." —Moose Jaw Times-Herald. You can take pride in having trained your children properly in fact and diplomacy if they can look through your old high-school annual without giggling. —Winnipeg Tribune. "Those new Canadian bank notes, to go into circulation in September, are impressive pieces of printing. And it's nice to know each of them is worth its face value, or perhaps a bit more." —Ottawa Journal. A week-end is a time for relaxation. Like putting up screens, washing the car, standing in a line at a super market, cleaning out the cellar. Saturday is a day of rest, of communion with nature—cutting grass, digging post holes, patching the roof. Sunday is a day of meditation—painting a ceiling, sanding floors, cutting down a rotten oak. A week-end is a time to make you go back to the office refreshed—with a lame back, blistered hands and a bill from the hardware store. Oh, for the good old times with the six-day week! —Boston Herald. In Ethiopia beer is two cents a glass, coffee a cent a cup. Hell Selassie! —Windsor Star. Now comes golf and the sudden change of the better half to the bitter half. —Hamilton Spectator. It is interesting to note that Canadian grain first made its appearance in quantity on the Japanese markets after rice soared. Barley especially was sought as a cheaper alternative to rice. Now rice prices are declining but Japan apparently still wants the Canadian grains. May we deduce from this that quality of product has won a permanent customer? —Saskatoon Star-Phoenix. Mr. Henry Moran, a miner, has obtained the permission of Chesterfield rural council to change the number of his home, 13, White Leas Avenue, North Wingfield, Derbyshire, to No. 11A. Mr. Moran had sought to change the number after living in the house just over a year. During that time he was injured in a pit accident, his wife gave birth to a crippled baby, his daughter Gall, aged six, dislocated her arm, Pamela, aged three, slipped and knocked out a tooth, and two-year-old Dawn had a serious abscess on her chin. —London Times. Sometimes the green world seems bent on offering us food which we reject. The dandelion is one wilding which many people in this district enjoy eating. They regard it as a sort of spring tonic. The bleached stems of the plant are the choice part. But the dandelion isn't the only weed that is edible. The purslane which crawls over fertile soil and is greatly beloved of gardeners, can be used, some say, in salads. The common chickweed is edible when cooked. Most of us will continue eating vegetables to which we have become accustomed. And better so, because some weeds look so much like others which are inedible that it is better not to experiment. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record. GROW UP SOONER GRANTLEY, England, (CP)—Early maturity was blamed for a shortage of 50,000 British choirboys at a meeting of choirmasters, organists and clergymen in this Yorkshire town. A speaker said that 20 years ago a boy's voice broke at about age 16, but now it changes at 13. LABOR PARTY The Labor party as a parliamentary force in Britain dates from the 1906 election when it elected 29 candidates. SHIRTS LAUNDERED TO PERFECTION RITE-WAY CLEANERS Dial 7387 Refrigeration SALES & SERVICE Repairs To All Makes MOTORS Rewinding and Repairs ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES Repairs Palmer Electric Phones 8543 8544

The Passing Scene By Observer AN ADVENTURING PIGEON

Most racing pigeons, like most human beings, stick to routine schedules and to the usual way of life; while in training they fly from one pre-arranged point to another with regularity and precision. This, of course, is as it should be. Owners of pigeons have plenty of things to worry about without having to add pigeon unpredictability to the list. Now and then, however, one refuses to be regimented and goes his lone way regardless of rules and regulations laid down by his trainer in the interests of efficiency. He is an individualist, a non-conformist, titled in the world of men, and presumably in the world of pigeons as well, are not regarded with any great esteem. Such was the case of pigeon A U 52-STD-684-234, who set out from Rahway, N. J. bound for Stamford, Conn. Ordinarily this trip takes only a few hours; it took A U 52 a little more than two weeks, during which time he visited sunny and historic Italy.

According to reliable reports, the pigeon's intention was to fly the entire distance. However, when 600 miles from the American shore, he became tired and weary and was forced to land on the deck of the Italian liner Saturnia. He finished the trip in luxury and idleness, living just like the first-class passengers, except for cock-tail lounge privileges, which a pigeon I have on the subject says pigeons don't care for anyway. Meanwhile, back home in New York, the pigeon's owner, a Mr. Eli Pia, was worrying himself sick over the absence of his favourite racer who already this year has won more than \$200 in prize money. Now that the story is out he says he just cannot understand what made A U 52 go off like that without asking permission or even giving a hint concerning his intentions. "He is a good bird, that ever he has done", said Mr. Pia to reporters.

Certainly, he is a good bird; but good birds, like good people, are not necessarily disciples of the status quo in every little particular, nor does goodness preclude a desire for romantic adventure. Mr. Pia, being a man of the world and a sportsman (no other kind of man would have had anything to do with racing pigeons in the first place), should know these things. No doubt A U 52 put on a lot of weight during his trans-Atlantic voyage, for there is no shortage of calories in a luxury liner's bill of fare. He may also have acquired some lazy habits. But these things will wear off in time, and A U 52 should be a better pigeon and a better racer for his experience; better, because he will have acquired more knowledge concerning important things which the average land bird never has a chance to see. Travel is a good teacher; provided the traveler has a keen eye and good powers of observation.

It shouldn't be hard for Mr. Pia or any other discerning person to think of a number of reasons why this free-thinking pigeon made up his mind—or whatever it is that pigeons have—to go abroad. It is just possible that he wanted to "get away from it all"; it must be pretty monotonous just flying from Rahway to Stamford and back again day after day all summer long. Even an occasional jaunt into Manhattan or the Bronx wouldn't provide much diversion for a bird who doubtless has seen it all many many times. Then, Mr. Pia, notwithstanding the softness of his name and his apparent concern for A U 52's safety, possibly may be so stern in his discipline and so exacting in his training requirements that an escapee seemed the only way out of an intolerable situation. This, of course, is pure speculation on my part; for all I know, Mr. Pia may be everything his peaceful name implies. In fact, he might have been too easy going with his racer, which also can be conducive to delinquency. Another possibility is that this particular pigeon, unlike most of his race, is a sailor at heart, and at last his yearning for the sea proved to be stronger than the call of the trivial and the duteous round. Many times men have succumbed to the same yearning without incurring dishonour. It could even be that he had made a bet with one of his fellow racers that he could sail the ocean blue without aid of compass or radio or any other instrument of man's invention. If this be the case, it could be argued that the adventure was spoiled somewhat by his coming to rest on the Saturnia's deck; but that was a case of physical necessity and so can be forgiven. In his innocence he probably believed that no news of his aerial predicament and subsequent acceptance of a free passage would leak out. The fact that it did will be embarrassing to A U 52, but only for a season. More likely than not for the other members of the company with eyes of envy on the pigeon who dared to leave the known path and soar into the unknown without counting the cost. As for Mr. Pia, he will soon get over his dismay and begin to congratulate himself on being the owner of a bird who has contributed something of value to the story of the world's pioneers.

The Age Old Story

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