

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1951

Mr. St. Laurent's Shoes

Like the Winnipeg Free Press, the Ottawa Journal is of opinion that the rumored retirement of Prime Minister St. Laurent amounts to something more than "the idle speculation of political dogdays".

The Journal says that Mr. Howe stands next in prestige, but it is doubtful if the latter, well in the mid-afternoon of life, and with years of arduous service behind him, would care to take on new and heavier responsibility.

Our Ottawa contemporary says nothing about Agriculture Minister Gardiner, who may prove to be the sturdiest horse of all.

Some Farmers' Reasons

What causes some people to choose agriculture as an occupation and others to choose to go elsewhere? A study made in Eastern Ontario in 1949 is quoted in this connection in the current issue of the Economic Annalist.

Quite closely related to this is the situation which occurred on 11 farms, 16 per cent of the farms reporting. In these cases the farmers who were interviewed said that they had stayed there because they were the only sons in the family and had to take over the farm.

The striking thing about this analysis was that 35 per cent of the farmers reporting said that they had chosen to stay on the farm because they liked it.

The reasons given by the male descendants for leaving the original farms were as follows: 34.2 per cent said they left because the farm was not large enough to support all adult members of the family.

per cent said they had left because the initial capital investment required to take over the farm was too high; and one farmer said that he left the farm because his wife didn't like it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The hold-up in the completion of new houses recorded in Dominion Bureau of Statistics is likely to be overcome shortly. Mortgage money which got scarce for a while, seems to have loosened up at around five and five-and-a-half per cent.

It is to the credit of our distinguished Islander, Mr. Cyrus Ching, now a foremost public man in the U. S. A., that his name should have been submitted to President Truman by the copper strikers as arbitrator in the dispute between them and the mine-owners.

Owing to the sudden death of the Mayor of Ottawa, Miss Whitton, LL.D., and social worker, has become acting Mayor of Canada's capital. No more fitting appointment could be made, especially as acting host when the Lord Mayor of London, and the Royal Edinburgh's visit Ottawa.

Owing to the scarcity of teachers over 1,000 children in Newfoundland will have to go without schooling this year. There is likewise a scarcity of school accommodation, but even where this is available, no fewer than 120 rooms are without teachers.

John Bunyan, author of "Pilgrim's Progress", died this date 1688. He fought briefly in the Parliamentary army and after the restoration was imprisoned twice as "a common upholder of several unlawful meetings and conventicles".

Germans between 15 and 48 years of age have arrived in the West to help to garner the bountiful harvest of wheat. The days are not long past when the youths of this Island and the Maritimes went by harvest excursion trains for this purpose, some of them never to return.

The addresses of Deputy Chief Scout Jackson Dodds at Rotary and St. James' bring forcibly to the attention of parents and others that the future of this Province, this Canada, and the world in general is dependent upon character building, and that the best means for this purpose are the home, the church and the school.

Nothing is more distressing to parents than to learn of the death of their offspring while on holiday. Two young Canadians on a motorcycle holiday in France, were killed near Abbeville on Saturday when a truck crashed into them.

How to finance the \$40 old age pension will be one of the first jobs of the next Parliament. The income tax is already a discriminatory tax. It falls mainly upon wage earners and salaried people.

In the light of the above it is difficult for us who accept the United Church as the way of our religious guidance, to countenance bingo as a means to finance an institution that cares for children.

Ear Saving Device

LUCIFER W. LOONEY, DISTINGUISHED ZITHER PLAYER AND PART TIME INVENTOR, HAS PRODUCED A METHOD, WHICH HE CLAIMS IS FOOLPROOF, FOR SHORTENING SPEECHES TO ANY DESIRED NUMBER OF WORDS...



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.

BLOOD DONOR CLINICS

Sir,—May I call to the attention of your readers the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinics which are at present being held in 13 centres in this Province, all the way from Tignish to Souris.

It is to be hoped that our citizens who have benefited by the 6,183 free transfusions of blood they have received during the past 2 1/2 years can influence their relatives, friends and neighbours to be donors at these Red Cross Clinics.

IS IT OUR BUSINESS?

Sir,—An item appeared in The Guardian of August 29, entitled "Big Bingo At Forum." It was stated that "Since the Protestant Orphanage and St. Vincent's Orphanage will benefit financially from the night's doings, the bingo has the approval of the authorities beforehand."

I am aware that certain forms of gambling are legal for charitable organizations provided the prizes put up have been offered for sale by those organizations on a previous occasion, and even then I understand the value of each prize is limited.

IN CHINA TRADE

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Aug. 30.—(AP)—Nearly all foreign vessels acquired by Poland since last February and at least six other big Polish vessels now are sailing on the Communist China trade, a well-informed Polish refugee source said here today.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) UNDESIRABLES

"We would call the attention of our civic authorities to the number of drunken loafers who lie basking in the sun at the corner of Queen Street; almost every man with an eye bent or his head in a sling. Frequently these men are offered work by commercial men at \$1 per day, but do not consider the sum sufficient incentive to industry."

The Age-Old Story

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed; and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

The Aster Family

(Ottawa Journal) The Composite family, of which asters are prominent members, is one of the most remarkable plant groups on our planet. Somewhere there is probably a botanist who has specialized in the Compositae and who can identify the more than 250 species and the many varieties in the different species.

Notes By The Way

Can you name the most neglected thing on the average farm? Is it not the mailbox, standing at the entrance to the drive, its paint all smudged and the name unrecognizable? It stands alone through drought, through storm. It burns in the summer, without shade or drink. It takes the blasts of the hailstones, the bite of the frost.

Rain drops are roughly the size of BB shot fired by an air rifle. Assuming 250 feet a second as the velocity of a BB, a raindrop has the same kinetic energy at 580 miles an hour, explained J. L. Beal, of the Cornell aeronautical laboratory in a General Electric science forum.

Apparently it is an ill pollen-carrying wind that blows no good. For years hay fever sufferers have waged a relentless war of words, scythes and chemical sprays against the ragweed, whose pollen wafted on Summer breezes brings them misery and red noses. Now several groups come forward to speak a good word for the lowly ragweed. Beekeepers maintain that ragweed is regarded as a delicacy by bees which make honey.

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