

Thanksgiving

The feast of ingathering, harvest-home, mell-supper or thanksgiving as it is variously known is very ancient in the English-speaking world and has its origin far back in the mists of antiquity.

Canada's official Thanksgiving Day originated in 1879 and for many years coincided with Thanksgiving in the United States.

It is necessary to watch that thanksgiving does not take on the implication that others must be less fortunate in order that we may be benefited.

This year there are no major wars anywhere and we are spared the temptation to be thankful that the fighting is going on elsewhere and not at our doorstep.

A Realistic Speech

Doubtless, Aneurin Bevan, leader of the left wing of Britain's Labour Party, made the most fiery speeches at the Party's annual conference in Scarborough; but in their contents his speeches were much less impressive than one made by Sam Watson.

Mr. Watson's views are sounder and more realistic in every way than those of Mr. Bevan and his followers, who seem to cling to the preposterous belief, despite historical evidence to the contrary, that disarmament on the part of the free nations is the only thing necessary to secure and preserve peace in the world.

Of course, Mr. Watson is right. So long as the leaders of world Communism remain in their present intransigent mood, the free world must remain strong, whatever the cost.

Amoy And Quemoy

The wheel of history makes strange revolutions. From the embattled southeast coast of China, where Nationalist and Communist Chinese have been exchanging increasingly heavy fire, came the tea dumped overboard at the Boston Tea Party of 1773.

In the years prior to the American Revolution Amoy had become the first Chinese port to trade with the British and Dutch. Later, by the Treaty of Nanking that ended the Anglo-Chinese war in 1842, the ancient city of Amoy off the Fukien coast was named one of the five "treaty ports" opened to foreign traffic and residence.

Unlike well-known Amoy, Quemoy only lately has come into prominence as one of the Chinese Nationalists' strongest offshore bases. With its neighbors—another island called Little Quemoy and several islets—Quemoy has remained continuously under Nationalist control since the Reds took over southern China in 1949.

Communists made strenuous efforts to capture the Quemoy island group and were repulsed with heavy losses.

Of the Nationalists' major island bases, the Quemoy group closest to the Communist dominated mainland. The Nationalists' Formosa stronghold is 85 miles east of the bulging China shore.

Conflict and violence are an old story in the Amoy-Quemoy area. Pirates have periodically infested these waters. From the 16th century to the mid-19th, troubles between local Chinese and foreign powers seeking trade and influence led to riots, the burning of the foreigners' ships, and sometimes open warfare.

Back in the 13th century Amoy made history as the final refuge of the Sung dynasty fleeing the conquering Mongols from the north. After the fall of the Ming dynasty in the 1600's, this coastal section became the center of a fierce rebellion against the incoming Manchus.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of the Duke of Kent, 1935.

Tomorrow, the 17th Sunday after Trinity, 18th after Pentecost.

Many children are receiving eye treatment because they went to a 3-D movie, according to a Rochester, N. Y. educationalist. It seems that children who were not known to have defective vision were detected when they protested about not seeing the pictures properly.

A "summons" has been served on each delegate to the annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce charging that he had not visited Prince Edward Island and commanding him to appear and answer next June, July, August or September to the Charlottetown centennial committee of 1955.

Finance Minister Harris is probably convinced that artists should be permitted to starve in their garrets. Certainly they should not become so familiar with folding money that they criticize its artistic quality.

Once more Moscow holds out reunification as a bait to the German people. The fact that Russia has perpetuated the division of East Germany from the now united British, French and United States zones is presumably forgotten.

There will be no Nobel Peace Prize awarded this year it has been announced. At first glance it seems strange that in a year when peace prevails for the first time in a decade there should be no one worthy of being so honoured.

The U. S. Navy has found that sections of a 1 1/2-inch steamline in the world's first nuclear submarine, Nautilus, contain welded piping instead of seamless tubing called for in the Navy's specifications.

H. M. S. La Lutine, frigate, was wrecked in a storm off the Netherlands this date 1799. The 32-gun ship had on board specie to the value of £1,175,000.



While You're At It

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.

FAIRPLAY TO SOUTH SIDERS

Sir.—The writer of a letter in your issue of the 6th inst depicts in forceful and picturesque language the disadvantages under which "south siders" in the West River district exist on account of their long round-about clay roads.

It is to be regretted, however, that the writer who signs himself merely as a south side resident does not make us clear as to his identity; although both the style and content of his letter would appear to afford a pretty good guess. It is to be equally regretted that the writer does not make it clear as to where he would advise a "necessary bridge" to be built.

Let this writer, who ever he may be, now state definitely where, in his opinion, a new bridge should be built, and he will undoubtedly, on this condition, find definite supporters. In the meantime, the present writer repeats what he has said on several former occasions: let a new bridge be built, and let it be built at the most just and reasonable point—namely Westville.

I am, Sir, etc., M. MCKENZIE

Argyle Shore.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

From The Examiner, Aug. 30, 1882:

Mr. Unsworth, mechanical engineer of the P. E. I. Railway, observed a bubbling spring of fresh water on the shore near the Round House. Believing it to be a never-failing source of water supply, and part of a stream leading from the boiler to the pump, and on it bored a well at the corner of the Round House on Water Street.

The water is very superior, is soft and abundant, and a trial showed that it is almost impossible to reduce it. It is of great value to the railway and will be convenient for fire purposes.

The representatives of this Province at the Dominion Rifle Competition, which commences at Ottawa in a few days, leave this city tomorrow morning. The team from the Island consists of Captain D. Stewart, No. 3 Co.; Sgt. Younker, No. 1 Battery of Garrison Artillery; Sgt. Major McDougall, Charlottetown Engineers; Sgt. B. Hooper, Charlottetown Engineers; Sgt. Allan, No. 3 Co.; Corp. McLean, Davidson, Sapper Milton Davidson, Charlottetown Engineers and Sgt. Archibald MacKinnon, No. 1 Battery of Garrison Artillery.

One of the pleasantest social events of the season took place today. The happy pair were J. A. Bartlett, Esq., and Miss Maggie, eldest daughter of the late Major Rasin. The elite of the City were present at St. James Church to witness the ceremony. The youth and beauty of the town present made the scene charming. The service was conducted by the Rev. Kenneth MacLennan. The wedding presents were numerous and costly.

A new division of the Sons of Temperance was organized in Montague, on Thursday evening last, with thirty-one charter members, by the name of Shining Light, No. 132. Officers were duly elected and installed, with Mr. John Montgomery as Worshipful Patriarch.

OLD MARINER

Capt. George Dixon, who died about 1800, commanded the vessel Queen Charlotte on British Columbia coastal explorations in 1787.

NOTES BY THE WAY

When a girl strokes a man's forehead, you can bet she's after his scalp.—Galt Record.

If there are men on Mars, as Orson Welles had large numbers of terrified Americans believing one night a few years back, they are probably a windblown bunch. That, at least, is the conclusion to be drawn from the report of an American astronomer who has been studying the much-disputed "canals" which terrestrial observers see, or think they see, on the red planet. —Winnipeg Free Press.

Vandals are about the meanest form of humanity. We have been informed that some mean thief (or thieves) have stolen an evergreen tree from a plot in Maple Vale cemetery. It is difficult to understand the mentality of a person who would be guilty of such desecration. May the culprit suffer the pangs of hades from a gully conscience.—Smiths Falls Record-News.

In 1936, two years from now, the great International Plowing Match, sponsored by the Ontario Plowmen's Association, will be held in Ontario County. The exact location is at Brooklin, on the farms along the Highway No. 7 just west of the village. The land at this section, being fairly level, but with enough hilly slopes to provide for contour plowing, is ideal for the purposes of the match.—Oshawa-Whitby Times-Gazette.

How mean can people be? At a farm fire down Toronto way a few days ago a great crowd gathered and police had to protect the orchard from looters who stole baskets and carried them away filled with apples. No wonder farmers are sometimes provoked at the depredations of city (and town) folk who seem to think that anything growing on a farm is common property.—Goderich Signal-Star.

Two excellent suggestions for making highway driving safer came from the Ontario Association of Professional Engineers in a report to a special committee of the Ontario Legislature. Both concern trucks. The first recommends an extra right hand lane on long steep grades. This would be used by slow moving heavily loaded trucks thus permitting normal traffic to pass freely and safely. The second calls for standard height bumpers on trucks, front and rear.—Vancouver Herald.

A Michigan auto dealer is offering a mink stole, a purebred Shetland pony with Western saddle and bridle, a complete home workshop, including a circular saw, band saw, drill press and joiner-planer, and a dining room set complete—all with the purchase of a single certain "low-price" car. Or perhaps it's the car he's giving away to the purchaser of the other articles.—Nansimo Free Press.

President Sidney Smith of the University of Toronto, addressing the students and staff as the new term got underway, has put in a good word for the much maligned "teen age." He spoke to assure the student body that the university is not prejudiced against teenagers, and does not call them by contemptuous names. In well-chosen words, he informed them that they would be treated as "reasonable, intelligent human beings." This involved responsibilities, among others, of courtesy and high standard of human relations.—Gleaner.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

VOICES FROM BEHIND THE CURTAIN

It will be recalled that one of the outstanding German heroes during the Second World War—from the Allied point of view, that is—was the Lutheran clergyman and theologian Dr. Martin Niemöller. He was one of the very few anti-Nazis to survive Hitler's wrath, probably because of his immense popularity with all classes of the German people. However, he had no easy time of it. He was arrested early in the war and thrown into a concentration camp, where he suffered every conceivable kind of persecution, short of death.

After his release he went further and further to the left in his political views although, so far as is known, he has never been a member of the Communist party. In the years immediately following the war he lectured extensively in the United States; and, because anti-German sentiment had not yet cooled—and Soviet-American relations were still friendly, he received a warm welcome and a sympathetic hearing wherever he went. Later he became known—rightly or wrongly—as a "fellow-traveller" and, of course, lost much of the prestige he had acquired in his courageous anti-Nazi years.

In quite recent years Dr. Niemöller has found it difficult on one or two occasions impossible to obtain permission to enter the United States. He did manage to get in, however, for the meetings of the World Council and, all in all, he appeared to be more outspoken in Communist sympathy than any other Iron Curtain delegate. Apparently, he had little to say at the meeting itself, but he was very active in the lobbies opposing the election of Bishop Dibelius, another East German Lutheran, to the Council Presidency. Bishop Dibelius, strictly anti-Communist, was elected nevertheless.

During his stay in Chicago Dr. Niemöller addressed a "Civil Liberties" group and left no doubt in the minds of his hearers of his ideological preference. "The Communist regime," he said, "gives the best promise of feeding the people and, to that extent, I, too, am a Communist." But his chief interest at the moment appears to be neither Communism nor anti-Communism, but his position: Hitler was the last man in history able to make Germans fight. No one else will ever be able to do it. To rely on European armies to fight against Communism is an error. Germany cannot be rearmaged as long as Germany is divided.

It was demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt in Nansimo police court the other day that "smort" or two too many plus operation of a motor car after aforementioned "smort" or two too many, had been taken, can go to make for an expensive piece of business. The party who has discovered that, is the case of Nanaimo at any rate, he has to leave the hard way of a Vancouver man. He was fined \$150 and costs for driving a car while in an "impaired" condition, and as well, had his driver's licence suspended for three months. Now he has had to sell his car in order to pay the fine. —Nanaimo Free Press.

One of the most unprofitable of all crimes, if it can be shown there is profit in any crime, is theft from the mails. The wonder is that there still are persons who will resort to it. This fact of life is recalled by the sentencing of a Northern Ontario postal clerk to nine months in jail for theft of \$3 from a letter. Considering that in a recent Newfoundland case a man who pleaded guilty to misappropriation of \$200,000 drew a sentence of only four years, this may seem unduly harsh. But it is in keeping with penalties for mail thefts. The public authority is right in demanding a high standard of integrity and honesty in its postal employees. Those who patronize the mails expect and are entitled to full protection. —Windsor Star.

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The Poet's Corner

SEASON UNTO SEASON Summer is dead, though at what certain hour, With what slow pang was drawn the final breath, Who knows? Only the haze, the yellowed flower, The autumnal pyre, bear witness to a death. Season is one with season, flesh with flesh. Neither can build about itself a wall Or cleanly knife the faded from the fresh. With—here the summer, over there the fall. Today we walk in sun, tomorrow mist That blurs the clear-cut thought, the rapture stilled, The splendid urgency to clench the fist At fate or rail at justice unfulfilled. Autumn, we say, amazed, note the brown leaf, The crimson haw, and snatch a last gold sheaf. —Myrtle Reynolds Adams in Saturday Night.

The Age Old Story

Thus saith the Lord, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. BEARDED SALESMEN SHEFFIELD, England (CP) — Frank Allison, chairman of the Incorporated Sales Managers' Association here, asked all his branch managers to grow beards. He says the customers won't forget them.