

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24, 1951

Mr. Claxton's Warning

Federal Government spokesmen are at last beginning to talk realistically about Canada's obligations under the United Nations Charter and the North Atlantic Pact. Speaking in Fredericton, N. B., the other day, Defense Minister Brooke Claxton put the issue in a nutshell when he said: "Prosperity and progress depend on the preservation of peace and today before we talk about social security we must talk about national security."

This year the original defense appropriations voted by Parliament were \$425 millions, increased last September to \$567 millions plus \$300 millions for mutual aid. Since the beginning of the current year on April 1, 1950, the defense Department has placed orders for equipment and construction totalling over \$701 millions; this as compared with the Department's total expenditure of \$125 millions during the first year of the Second World War. No one knows what the defense bill will be during the coming fiscal year, but there is no question but that it will be further increased by many millions.

"We must face the brutal fact," said Mr. Claxton, "that even all the resources so far devoted to defense in all twelve nations under the North Atlantic Treaty fall far short of the military estimate of the minimum requirements. If we knew now that a war was coming next year, we would, as sensible people, be spending not half a billion or a billion dollars, but several times as much. If we are successful in deterring aggression, the very fact of our success must of itself prolong the effort. We are faced with the necessity of extending this effort for perhaps a generation, until the threat of war is ended either by the fact of war or by a change in the attitude of the Communists themselves. While war is not inevitable, neither is peace, and today we must recognize that even on the most distant horizon there is nothing to indicate that such a change is yet under way."

When Parliament meets on January 29 it will have this grim reminder before it of the crisis through which we are passing. It is to be hoped that the Speech from the Throne will sound a similar realistic note, and that the Government will set an example of rigid economy in non-essential expenditures in keeping with the Spartan programme which it will be called upon to place before the taxpayers.

"Kinsey Report" On Lobsters

The "Kinsey Report" idea, according to an exchange, is being applied to lobsters now except that the spiny creatures aren't interviewed about their love life.

In an effort to check a declining lobster birth rate threatening the multi-million-dollar lobster industry in the United States, a thorough study of the crustacean's living habits is being made by researchers at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Through permanent records kept by an electronic recorder, it is hoped to guarantee a cheaper and more constant supply of shell fish for the dinner table. The first year and a half's research revealed that male lobsters will protect their mates from bachelor lobsters but not from any predatory fish in the neighborhood.

The UCLA researchers soon expect to learn where lobsters mate, where they lay their eggs, the length of the incubation period and where lobsters go on their honeymoon.

A Green Belt

The advantages of Town Planning are becoming more generally appreciated as the unfortunate and costly consequences of unplanned development begin to force themselves on public attention. It is obvious that the services necessary for a modern community can only be provided at reasonable cost if a careful planning job has been done and development carried on accordingly.

There is also the aspect, which is now receiving attention here, that property values can only be forecast with any accuracy when it is known in advance what type of development will take place. Such certainty results in maintaining property values to the advantage of the property owner and also to the city which is assured of corresponding real assessed values.

What is apt to be overlooked, however,

is the desirability of drawing a line around the city and its suburbs. It should be possible for the ordinary citizen to "get out in the country" without going half-way to the nearest population centre. A green belt bounding the City in which neither residential nor commercial construction would be allowed would certainly make both town and suburbs better places in which to live.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of St. Timothy.

The East Coast Fisheries Conference officially gets under way today but, like the fishermen who habitually begin their day the night before, it is already half done.

It is now announced there will be a new Federal portfolio office, to be known as the Ministry of Defence Productions Department, organized and supervised at present by Rt. Hon. Mr. Howe. A reshuffle of the Government is about due.

It seems not a little early for the distribution of seed catalogues but the nurseryman at York probably knows gardeners as well as plants and intends to let them revel in anticipated floral profusion while darkness still closes in before supper.

The Canadian Sports Advisory Council which will officially come into existence May 1 is itself a notable achievement by the many sports promoting and governing bodies in this country. It will face many difficult tasks in bringing the member bodies closer together in the interest of the advancement of Canadian sport and physical fitness.

The suspension bridge project between Halifax and Dartmouth is about to become an accomplished fact provided the necessary steel is available. It is to cost the Nova Scotia Government \$7,000,000. Halifax has guaranteed 25 per cent of any loss sustained by the province, Dartmouth 10 per cent and the county five per cent. It is not known yet whether the Federal government will contribute.

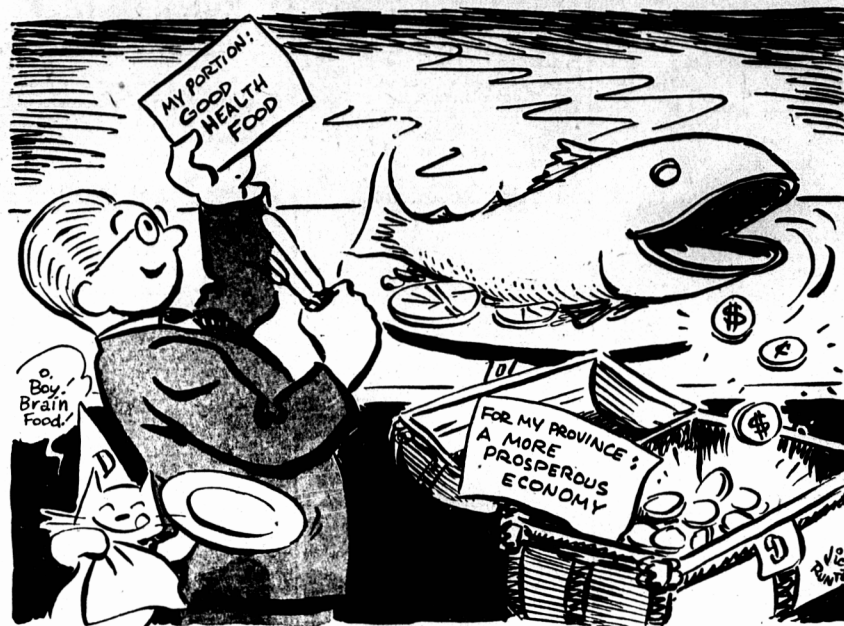
Eleven years ago, on January 24, 1940, Canadian troops serving overseas paraded for their first Royal inspection in the Second World War when His Majesty the King inspected men of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division at Aldershot, Hants. A few months later, in June 1940, while under orders for France, they were again inspected by Their Majesties, as they were on many future occasions.

The Brockville Recorder and Times compares the cold weather reliability of the car and horse to the very great disadvantage of the car. Nostalgia no doubt causes a lapse of memory on the subject of snow baling under the horses hoof and the relative difficulty of getting a fallen animal on its feet as compared with rocking a car into motion from a slippery start.

Charles James Fox, British statesman, third son of Henry Fox, Lord Holland, born this date 1749 and died 1806. He entered Parliament in 1768, becoming junior Lord of the Admiralty two years later. He was influenced by Burke and opposed Lord North's policy in America, and sided with the colonists. Later he formed a Coalition government with Lord North, which proved highly unpopular, and ended in 1783. The Whigs were utterly defeated at the ensuing election, and for 22 years remained out of office. After Pitt's death in 1806, he became Foreign Secretary, but died a few months afterwards. A brilliant orator, and possessed of great personal charm, his powerlessness as a statesman is attributable partly to the reputation gained by his early excesses, and to the continued disfavour of George III because of his opposition to the Royal Marriage Act.

The Canadian Dairy Farmers at their annual meeting in Calgary learned from President Gilbert McMillan, that dairy surpluses had entirely disappeared during the last year and the country now is importing cheese, butter and probably some powdered milk. He blamed the Anglo-Canadian cheese contract for diverting milk production from domestic needs. "Despite the advice of some men in high places, I would not be in favor of entering into any future export contract for any definite amount of any dairy product. Conditions governing production are too uncertain. . . . I believe we should make development of our home market the first consideration. . . ." Mr. McMillan said dairymen have to accept competition from vegetable products in a field formerly served solely by dairy products. But he said the industry would demand against fats of foreign origin "the same degree of protection as is afforded to any other industry." About 100 delegates representing some 40,000 dairy farmers attended the three-day meeting.

Eating Fish: Doubly Beneficial



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.

COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING

Sir,—Compulsory training is foreign to the traditions of Naval Service which has always been voluntary in this country. For that reason alone high praise is due the Dominion Executive of the Naval Officers' Association of Canada for placing national interest above Service tradition in recommending that steps be taken immediately to initiate compulsory military training. In making the recommendation the meeting observed:

(1) That after reviewing the whole subject, the Executive had come to the conclusion that there was no other appropriate alternative within the national interest.

(2) That the deplorable state of the reserve forces makes it evident that the first steps in carrying out the policy should be directed to ensure that the role of the reserve forces in the defense picture is adequately taken care of.

(3) That the Executive is concerned with the lack of leadership displayed by the Government on this vital subject.

The Executive represents several thousand former naval officers. They have taken a bold stand. It will be roundly criticised by those who, for the sake of popularity, play down the gravity of the present world situation and the need in this country for some form of compulsory military training.

Leaders who take the easy road should realize that their lack of courageous action endangers the lives of the very people whose applause and support they seek. It is easy to swim with the tide. It must have been particularly difficult for this group . . . to swim against the current of tradition. I am, Sir, etc. WILLARD MACKENZIE Vice President D.C. of N.O.A.C. 44 South Park Street Halifax, N. S.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

NOTRE DAME CONVENT

"The Convent of the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame has just opened in this City, for the purpose of imparting a finished education to those young ladies whose parents and guardians may think proper to avail themselves of the advantages of such an institution. The ladies in charge of it arrived here a few weeks ago from Montreal, under the care of the zealous and excellent priest, Father MacIntyre, and we are informed that they bear a high reputation for learning and proficiency in all those accomplishments which form a graceful accompaniment to the moral and intellectual training of young ladies. "Although the Convent may be considered sectarian in its character, from its being an institution peculiar to the Catholic Church, Protestant ladies, of all shades of religious belief, are here—as is the case elsewhere—as readily admitted within its walls as the daughters of Roman Catholics, where the blessings of a finished education may be acquired without violence being done to their religious convictions; and we have no doubt that many liberal and enlightened Protestant families in this community will co-operate with their Catholic neighbours in giving encouragement to such an institution as that which has just been established in our midst, and that, ere the lapse of many years, the community generally will bear grateful testimony to the benefits which will have been conferred upon the rising generation by the accomplished ladies who have so recently taken up their abode amongst us." —The Examiner, Oct. 12, 1857.

Does Spelling Matter

(Montreal Star)

The discovery has been made—and it is duly reported in the trade paper, Editor and Publisher—that reporters, and particularly graduates of schools of journalism, can't spell. The news is stale. Any city editor could have told you that, right back to the days when news was slugged out with a chisel on a block of stone. A reporter was once fired from the Sennacherib-owned Babylonian Bugle for spelling Hammurabi with one "n". But why single out reporters, and why single out graduates of journalism schools? As Editor and Publisher promptly pointed out, Stanley Walker of the New York Herald Tribune, once remarked that if a man was a lousy speller at the age of 12, he would be a lousy speller at 60; and schools of journalism do not admit students at the age of 12. So don't blame them. The fact is that very few people can spell, and those who can are

Everest's Challenge

(Winnipeg Free Press)

For centuries men of adventurous turn have sensed the challenge of mountain peaks and the years of our modern era have been rich with climbing epics. It is interesting to note that this human urge to tackle and conquer snow-swept mountains has not been completely blotted out even by the world struggle with Communism. The planning of expeditions has, however, become more difficult by virtue of the fact that mountain chains tend to coincide with political frontiers, with the result that climbing activities frequently give rise to real or alleged apprehensions and far-fetched fantasies.

The latest attempt on Everest by a group of United States climbers and a British veteran appears, fortunately, to have escaped diplomatic attention. It was an unusual expedition in that, for the first time, an approach was made from the Nepalese side. Aside from primitive villagers, no group had previously ventured within 70 miles of the mountain base on the southern front, though it has now been ascertained that this route is both easier and quicker than that attempted by previous climbers. From the observations made by the 1950 party, it seems likely however that Everest will remain unconquered for some time. For, while the approach is easy enough, careful reconnaissance along various ridges to a height of 19,000 feet led to the conclusion that the precipitous southern face probably presents insuperable difficulties.

The expedition did succeed in amassing a great deal of new information with regard to the Everest region. This may well be the last recorded for many years to come. On the northern side of Everest lies Tibet, a country whose Government has in the past been very reluctant to admit climbing parties. It will occasion great surprise if a Communist Government from the standpoint of hospitality to foreigners, over that of the Buddhist lamas. But though politics may for a period interpose a new barrier to the conquest of the peak, it is not to be doubted that the challenge of the mountain will continue to stir men's minds and in the end evoke a response adequate to surmount the still-unyielding obstacles of its icy summit.

The Age-Old Story

Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner; but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our work, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, but is now manifested by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Clouds

Down the blue night the unending columns press In noiseless tumult, break and wave and flow, Now tread the far South, or lift rounds of snow Up to the white moon's hidden loveliness. Some pause in their grave wandering comrades. And turn with profound gesture vague and slow, As who would pray good for the world, but know Their benediction empty as they bless. They say that the Dead die not, but remain Near to the rich heirs of their grief and mirth. In wise majestic melancholy train, And watch the moon, and the still-raging seas, And men, coming and going on the earth. —Rupert Brooke.

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Notes By The Way

President Truman wants the St. Lawrence seaway built as quickly as possible, but this is a question deep in American politics and nobody would bet on an early start. — Ottawa Journal.

Two of the delegates to the Ontario Junior Farmers' Association convention at Toronto were interviewed by a reporter. Said Don Milburn, of Peterborough: "A young fellow is crazy to leave the farm these days. If he's a farmer's son he should consider himself one of the luckiest fellows in the world." And said Don Finnie, of St. Mary's: "No other occupation offers the independent, sociable life of rural Ontario." They said more than that, all to the point that farming is a profitable and happy business. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Biggest UK box office successes in 1950 were "The Blue Lamp," British semi-documentary about London's Metropolitan Police, Disney's "Treasure Island" and "Annie Get Your Gun," in that order. Six of the top films were British and six American. They were, in addition to the above, "The Happiest Days of Your Life," "Morning Departure," "Odette," "They Were Not Divided," and "The Wooden Horse" (British), and "Fanny Pants," "Father of the Bride," "Jolson Sings Again" and "Three Came Back" (American). — UK Information Office.

General MacArthur's intelligence service announces that 171,117 Chinese Communists face the 8th Army, plus 106,056 more on the east coast that 167,233 North Korean soldiers are also in contact with the 8th Army. The intelligence officers, the army strength in "Korea total" 444,406. Are they quite sure that Cpl. Shal Won Shoung of East Chung Yi Road, Chungking, might not have been out rabbit hunting and that the number ought not to be 444,407? — Christian Science Monitor.

The suddenly advanced claims of British Columbia Indians for payment for land which was acquired from them in the past century without recompense is startling and unexpected. But the Indian organizations produce what appears to be unanswerable evidence of the justice of their contention. They say that the province has acquired no less than 348,000 square miles of land which

rightfully belongs to Indians. And they support their demand for payment with proclamations of King George III and of Queen Victoria ordering the Crown to pay for the land. The Indians of B. C. contend that they were never conquered and that the acquisition of their land by the whites was a matter of business arrangement and not of gain by force of arms. The B. C. Indians state that the site of the city of Victoria is the property of their tribes. But the value of what was actually taken from them bears no relation to the value which has been created by white enterprise. — Edmonton Bulletin

A prune can go a long way in the world today. The current issue of the Canadian Grocer tells of the strange wanderings of some prunes which grew in California, rested temporarily in Holland and finally landed on Canadian grocery shelves. It seems to illustrate that in these days of involving international dealings there may be some uncertainties even for a prune. These prunes were bought by the United States Government in California. They were sold to Holland. To make the price right, Washington paid a subsidy of 40 per cent on the small prunes and 30 per cent on the larger ones. Holland did not want all the prunes it bought. But it did want dollars. The Dutch shipped about 25,000 cases of the prunes to Canada at a lower price than Canadian buyers could get them directly from California. Then the buyers with the Dutch prunes had a price advantage over those with the direct-from-California prunes. And the California fruit-growers were annoyed because if these prunes had not gone to Holland at a subsidized price and back to Canada at a below-normal price, the growers would have been able to sell more prunes to Canada at a higher price. It was stipulated in the first place that the prunes sold to Holland could not be shipped back to the United States. There was no ban on their being sent to Canada, however. Somehow it seems appropriate that a new wrinkle in international commerce should concern prunes. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

HIGH CLAIM

A 328-foot statue of Lenin enables Moscow to claim the World's highest building, making the Palace of Soviets 1,365 feet high.

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