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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1953

Potato Board Controversy

The Federal election campaign notwithstanding, the most lively issue in the Province at the moment is the petition being presented today to the Provincial Government dealing with the marketing of potatoes. A great many charges and counter-charges are being levied by the friends and opponents of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board.

Although the Board's miscalculation furnishes a ready weapon to attack it, the more fundamental issue involved is the profound mutual mistrust which exists between the Board and a great many engaged in the marketing of the crop. There is the suspicion, for instance, that the Board contemplates taking the whole task of marketing into its own hands and the contrary suspicion that dealers would try to do away with all regulation of the industry, leaving it at the mercy of the least scrupulous speculators.

Neither of these suspicions is valid so far as the large responsible majority is concerned. The number of Islanders who do not aim at a prosperous potato industry is so insignificant that they can be disregarded. Dealers should not object to regulation which prevents the glutting of markets for they are the losers when prices fall and they are caught with large quantities on hand. The Board and the Federation of Agriculture is well aware of the enormous amount of work and the countless contacts necessary to dispose of the yearly crop to best advantage.

What is needed today is a recognition of the honest aims of all concerned with the industry. Confidence of the Board in the dealers, the dealers in the Board and the farmers in both will go far towards ironing out difficulties as they arise

U. N. Rehabilitation Projects

An interesting illustration of United Nations activity is given in the report of 1952, recently published, of the U.N. Technical Assistance Administration, which operates chiefly through seven of the United Nations' offspring, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization, World Health Organization, UNESCO, etc., for social welfare, economic development and public administration. Since the end of 1951 TAA has extended its work to 77 countries and territories—19 more than in the previous 12 months. It has increased the number of expert advisers sent abroad from 165 to 451; and the fellowships and scholarships granted to persons in underdeveloped countries to study special subjects abroad from 451 to 729. The total expenditure in 1952 was \$7,013,938, more than four times that of 1951; and its estimated spending this year will be about \$7,227,598.

Part of this large sum is drawn from the U.N. budget, part is voluntarily contributed by different Governments. Hardly any country seems without its obligation to TAA. Even highly-developed Canada was awarded a social welfare fellowship for the study in Europe of housing and town and country planning. Denmark stands high as one of the best administered countries in the world.

Within the matter-of-fact records of TAA there is much to stir the imagination. In Afghanistan, economic development seems to be the order of the day. Geologists and engineers are bringing to light stores of underground water for the benefit of the Karakul sheep, whose fleeces are Afghanistan's best paying export. A great irrigation and hydro-electric scheme in the Helmand valley will bring half-a-million acres into cultivation.

One of the most serious of the problems with which Israel is struggling is lack of houses. Experiments are being made to build with stabilized earth—apparently earth pressed into bricks; for TAA is helping with laboratories to test the most suitable earth and block-making machines.

One very appealing entry deals with the training of blind people to become self-responsive and even self-supporting in Italy. In Egypt, too, TAA is helping to establish a demonstration centre for the social rehabilitation of the blind where it is intend-

ed to train Egyptians for the same good work in other Arabic-speaking countries.

In Greece, besides geological mapping of discoveries of minerals and underground water, development of oil-cloth and linoleum manufacture, and the organization of a government statistical service, TAA is at work among the villagers encouraging them to develop a "community" sense, and to pool their labor in the making of roads, water and sewage systems, and land reclamation for the common use.

In many ways, TAA co-operates with the Economic Commissions for Asia, for Europe and for Latin America whose annual expenditure runs to many millions of dollars.

Royal Effigies

In the course of his duties as assistant keeper of the Muniments at London's Westminster Abbey, Mr. R. P. Howgrave-Graham has made discoveries of considerable historical interests. Of the discovery and restoration of a number of royal effigies that include some of the oldest death masks in Europe, he comments in London Calling that the work was concerned with a number of portrait figures of British Sovereigns, of the kind that were made centuries ago to lie in state with the coffined body of a king or queen, and later to be carried in ceremonial procession to Westminster. Great pains were taken to make these exact likenesses, but unfortunately many of them were badly damaged—by time and by the effects of wartime bombing, which exposed them to the open air.

The most important of these discoveries is that two of these effigies are actually death masks from moulds made from the dead faces. The mask of Edward III, who died in 1377, actually records the paralysis which ended his life, and provided medical reasons for believing him to have been left-handed. This is the oldest European death mask that we know of. The other is of Henry VII, who died in 1509. It shows a manly, open face with strong Welsh characteristics.

The accounts for the making of the effigy of Henry's wife, Elizabeth of York, are complete to the smallest details, and can be checked by examination of the figure. We know the names of the men who carved the head, copying her death mask. Hair was recovered from most of the effigies, and it was examined by Dr. Holden of Scotland Yard. He found that it was all human except for the eyebrows of Edward III, which are dog's hair. One effigy was that of the pathetic figure of Henry V's wife, the 'dear Kate' of Shakespeare's play, Katherine of Valois.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The roadside tables placed throughout the Province do not, of course, produce any revenue from tourists, but tourists will spend all they intend to anyway and the gesture of providing free picnic accommodation is in the best tradition of hospitality.

Bombers which "attacked" this country three weeks ago operated from a base in the United Kingdom and returned there without refuelling it has been revealed. The aircraft, United States B-36's, show again that no country is immune to air attack. The lesson should be a salutary one on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

Most of us are in the habit of thinking of the Island soil as being a uniform sandy loam. The column, Agricultural News, draws attention to the 9800 acres of peat, muck and alder mud disclosed by the soil survey. The suggested uses of these materials would make them very valuable indeed to Island agriculture.

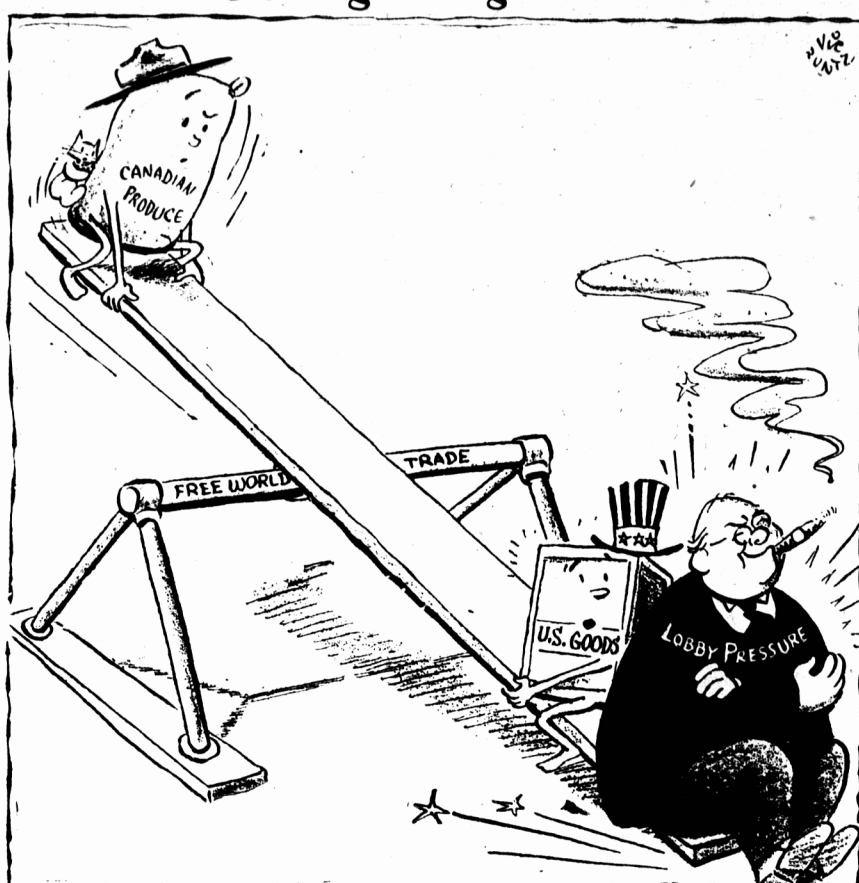
Margarine, while holding the spot in the centre ring, is only one act in the five-ring circus of dairy product substitutes, the National Milk Producers Federation points out. "Imitation ice cream, cheese, whipped cream, and evaporated milk are waiting their turn to take the big spot and cut more billions of pounds out of the demand for genuine dairy products," it is claimed. Dairy farmers, the NMPF points out, need protection against "too rapid influx of substitutes which will undermine their ability to buy goods from others."

The latest furore (although as yet that might be too strong a word) has come about as a result of his having been ordered to take a rest; almost at once the cry went up: "Is Churchill too old?"

The same cry was heard nearly a couple of years ago, when he was voted back into power as Prime Minister. He went ahead and demonstrated by his bearing both in the House and out that his age hung lightly on him. Doubtless it still would not have troubled him had he not taken charge of the Foreign Office in Mr. Eden's absence, thereby having to do two men's work.

If Mr. Eden's illness was the cause, the effect was doubly unfortunate because it meant that now both Leader and Deputy Leader of the Government were out of action; and, moreover, at a time when events of great moment were stirring. It was grist to the doubters' mill. One powerful newspaper, not known for its Churchillian views, gave a broad enough hint by hold-

Slowing Things Down



The Poet's Corner

FROM 'THE CRUISE OF THE NONA' There is no fortress of man's flesh so made But subtle, treacherous Time comes creeping in. Oh, long before his last assaults begin The enemy's on; the stronghold is betrayed. And the one lonely watchman, half-dismayed, Beyond the covering dark he hears them come: The distant hoist of Death that march with muffled drum. —Hilaire Belloc.

Notes From Another Island

LONDON, England: Possibly nothing in the past decade has mystified foreigners so much as the result of the British General Election of 1945, when Winston Churchill was voted out of the office of Prime Minister. He had led us through years as black as any in our history to a triumph that seemed miraculous by contrast with all that had gone before. He was the man of the age, the idol of millions not only in his own country but throughout the world.

Yet, at the very pinnacle of his power, at the moment when it might have been supposed that no one could seriously challenge him, he was dismissed from office as summarily as if he had been some unsatisfactory journeyman. The world might well be surprised. (And, by the way, people in less happy lands might well ponder on this demonstration of the incredible power of the free vote.)

Really great men, whose words invariably make news, rarely announce publicly their innermost thoughts at times like that. But if one were to hazard a guess it may not be too fanciful to imagine that Mr. (as he was then) Churchill was less surprised than most people. He is too old a hand at politics to have taken the result of that election for granted; too experienced to presume to know in advance which way the electoral cat would jump.

Those who were surprised should perhaps have known better. Any one who knows even a little of Winston Churchill's life could hardly fail to be aware that controversy is always likely to break out about him. Politics are a contentious subject, and few Parliamentary figures of prominence can escape their quota of ups and downs. Winston Churchill is prone to arouse controversy even in controversial issues.

The latest furore (although as yet that might be too strong a word) has come about as a result of his having been ordered to take a rest; almost at once the cry went up: "Is Churchill too old?" The same cry was heard nearly a couple of years ago, when he was voted back into power as Prime Minister. He went ahead and demonstrated by his bearing both in the House and out that his age hung lightly on him. Doubtless it still would not have troubled him had he not taken charge of the Foreign Office in Mr. Eden's absence, thereby having to do two men's work.

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Notes By The Ways

Home cooking is what every man would have if every woman was. — Kitchener News-Record. A Londoner who has returned from England where he saw the Coronation, tells the story of an America who arrived in Old London a few days after the Coronation. He heard such glowing reports of the affair, the glittering procession and the whole show, he said to a friend: "I am sorry I missed the Coronation, but believe me I am coming back to see it next year."—London Free Press.

The National Gallery of Canada has been sprucing up its advertisements lately and is getting over the general impression that art need not be a stuffy proposition. This is a welcome development. The fact is that more and more people are becoming interested in art and their life is not exclusively recognizable by the length of their hair. We know of a number of very respectable citizens who earn their living as plain ordinary Canadians and yet enjoy spending some of that reward by painting or collecting painting or reading about painting. We like this. It is as though the word culture has been brought down to size and given an airing. We can all have a bit.—Ottawa Journal.

Dental decay, commonly known as decay, is one of the most widespread conditions detrimental to good health found among civilized people today. Viewed in its entirety, it is a colossal problem to overcome. Proper diet, eating less sugar and candy, brushing the teeth immediately after eating, and early and regular visits to the dentist have all proven valuable. Researchers, seeking the reason why people in some localities consistently showed less evidence of dental decay than residents of different localities, finally demonstrated that the element fluorine was responsible. It has been demonstrated that a very small amount of fluorine in the drinking water will bring about a two-third reduction in dental decay in children.—B. C. Health Bulletin.

The second Canadian Boy Scout Jamboree, which has just been held in Ontario, provides interesting testimony to the popularity and the wide spread of this excellent form of training for boys. From having only 13,500 members in 1912, the Scout movement has grown until today it numbers more than 150,000. Of these the great majority are to be found in the large centres of population, but

Old Charlottetown (And F. E. L.) GULNARE LAUNCHED This morning, from the Steammill Wharf, a beautiful, copper-fastened vessel was launched, of 180 tons, called the "Gulnare", built by Messrs Peake and Duncan, for W. Stevenson, Esq., of Quebec. She was christened by Lady Huntley in the usual manner, and glided off the launchways, amid the shouts of the spectators, in fine style. This splendid vessel is intended for the Surveying Service, and will be immediately placed under the command of Captain Bayfield, R.N.

"We regret to have to add that by some accident, one of the seamen belonging to the vessel had his left hand shattered to pieces in a dreadful manner, and was otherwise badly injured, by the discharge of a brass gun, at the minute the vessel began to move off the launchways." —Colonial Herald, May 18, 1844.

The Age Old Story But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

The Passing Scene

By Observer CONCERNING PEACE MAKING

It is interesting to note the many changes that have taken place in comparatively recent times with respect to the theory and practice of peace making. In the earliest pacts of which history supplies any records there was only one factor to be considered, namely, vengeance. A nation involved in war knew exactly what to expect in either defeat or victory. In the former nothing but total enslavement would be its lot; in the latter imposition of its will on the defeated would be accepted as a matter of course.

The idea of mercy was virtually unheard of. No tribe or nation expected it. There was general admiration for the conqueror who put his defeated enemies in chains. The only crime involved in war was defeat. By the time of the Roman Empire which, of course, is only as yesterday in relation to the long history of warfare, a slight change for the better became noticeable. War was just as stern and relentless as it had always been, but there was a growing feeling that victory brought responsibilities as well as glory and plunder. Defeated generals, and sometimes whole armies, were marched through Rome in chains to the glory of the emperor and to the subject humiliation of the vanquished.

The territories of the enemy were annexed to those of the conqueror and proper tribute was exacted. Nevertheless, much of the cruelty which had been traditional in other eras was dispensed with in Roman pacts of peace and, in many cases, there was a magnanimous touch to the hard hand of the conqueror. It gradually became the idea of a "compact" with the inference that it was made in faith. Both words have temporary connotations but a truce, properly speaking, is more likely to become permanent.

Anyway, whatever it is that has been signed will surely take an unique place in the history of war and peace. A strange, almost bizarre, instrument. It is an armistice in the sense that arms are at rest. Whether it is a truce in the sense that it has a good chance to become permanent is a question that, apparently, no one is in a position to answer. From what one hears and reads the general view in United Nations Councils seems to be that we should hope for the best and be ready for the worst. But whether the emphasis is on hope or on readiness is not at the moment very clear. If it does lead to a satisfactory peace settlement it will mean that history will have written "thus" to international diplomatic customs that have been the vogue for a long, long time.

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