

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, OCT. 20, 1953

Last Constitutional Appeal

On November 2nd the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council will commence hearing the last appeal to come before that august body interpreting Canada's constitution.

The Privy Council is not strictly speaking a court at all, although it gained recognition as the highest court for the Commonwealth and Empire.

There are those who maintain that the existence of that right to appeal had an adverse effect on judicial hearings in the courts both because outstanding lawyers might not be prepared to serve on a court which lacked final jurisdiction and because of the temptation to leave the determination of difficult questions to the Judicial Committee before which they would probably be arguing in any case.

The present controversy as to whether Ottawa or the Provinces have the right to control inter-provincial bus lines is one with which such an impartial arbitrator is well qualified to deal.

In any case the final constitutional appeal taken from this country before the Privy Council is a notable historic event. It marks the end of a long process of judicially interpreting this country's constitution.

It is gratifying that Prince Edward Island should be represented before the judicial committee on this historic occasion by two distinguished members of the Bar.

Crop Insurance Costs

A study of crop insurance costs is contained in the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool's recent submission to a Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, sitting in Regina.

In the 14 years the farmers' contributions, made through a deduction of one per cent on the value of grain delivered to the elevators, amounted to \$41,600,000.

This scheme of crop insurance, notes the Ottawa Journal, is extremely limited. In the event of complete crop failure the farmer receives \$250 an acre on half his cultivated acreage up to 200 acres, or a maximum of \$250—a small sum indeed when modern farming costs are considered.

What has been demonstrated, says the Journal, is that an "adequate national crop insurance plan would involve very large amounts being guaranteed by the Federal Government. That does not necessarily cause crop insurance—there were headshakings over the unemployment insurance plan which now has about \$1 billion in its fund from the contribution of workers, employers and the Government.

Border Strife

Settlement of the border incidents between Jordan and Israel present a difficult problem for the United Nations and countries with an interest in the pacification of the Middle East.

Reprisals are about the most abominable form of warfare. The innocent are made to suffer for the guilty, if there is guilt. They may not constitute a threat to the security of the enemy.

The Jewish people, themselves, have repeatedly been victims of this aberration of warfare, as have other sections of the population of Poland, Russia, France and other countries under the Nazi heel.

The Security Council has been summoned by Britain, France and the United States to deal with the incident at Kibya. It is to be hoped, for Israel's sake even more than for other countries, that the individuals responsible for that wanton slaughter be brought to book.

EDITORIAL NOTES

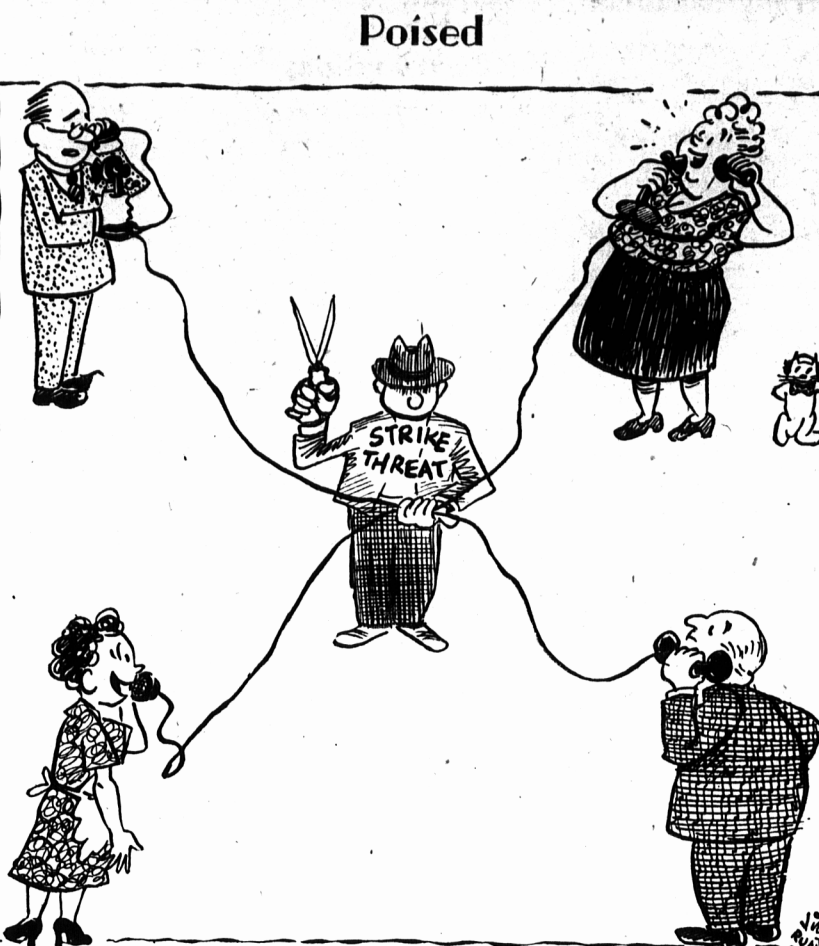
The Canadian Legion Poppy Campaign is well under way. It should be emphasized, perhaps, that apart from the modest cost of making the wreaths, by disabled veterans, the proceeds are spent locally to aid veterans and their dependents.

Circumstances alter cases. When it comes to talking about the size and advantages of cities everyone claims very special virtue for their own home town. It is not surprising, however, that when it is a question of priority as a target for the Atomic Bomb, Toronto's mayor should modestly disclaim anything but secondary importance for the "Queen City."

Grace Darling, English heroine, died this date 1842. Daughter of a lighthouse-keeper on the Farne Islands in the North Sea, she and her father rescued nine people from the "Forsfarshire" in 1838. Their heroism was warmly appreciated and rewarded, but she died of consumption soon afterwards. The islands were acquired by the National Trust in 1925 as a result of a public appeal.

Numerous whales were depth charged in mistake for submarines during the war. Now Asdic, a radio beam device used by the Navy during World War II to detect enemy submarines, is to be used to locate whales in the Antarctic this winter. An Edinburgh firm is equipping 22 of its whaling ships with Asdic sets and will employ operators with wartime experience, who, before setting sail for South Georgia, will attend a refresher course and learn whaling technique.

The terms of reference of the newly appointed committee of penal experts could well be broadened. Set up by the Minister of Justice to study methods of parole and remission of sentence in this country and elsewhere, it could with advantage study the public's attitude towards offenders. Widespread indignation over particular criminal acts is not readily allayed by the thought that the criminals will be made over into law-abiding citizens. To be successful, an intelligent parole and remission policy must be accompanied by a conversion of the public from the idea of revenge against offenders to one of concern for their rehabilitation.



The Poet's Corner

SONNET FOR OCTOBER

Here is all autumn blazing in a jar; An arc of triumph in one leafy fan. All color's gamut in so small a span! The bowl-grey-blue as autumn bonfires are When smoke puffs up from gardens near and far And trees at last their brittle bunting shed. Wind-fluttered toys of copper: yellow, red Drop from the boughs left shivering brown and bare. The children run to catch them as they fall. Child, wind, and leaf whirled in a madcap spree: For each leaf caught, "A happy month!" they call. Such joy this gift of branches brings to me that burning beauty I recall. That by its burning beauty I recall All autumn's glory and all childhood's glee.

—Una R. Lias in the Christian Science Monitor.

Terrible Thing

"Shep saved me all right; otherwise the bull would have killed me," said the 60-year-old Fraser Valley farmer, from his bed in his comfortable farm-home. Painfully he moved his right arm, which was held in a cast, and then continued: "I got out of it with a broken arm, three broken ribs, a crushed ankle and a cut on my ear. But I was lucky. Another minute, and it would have been all over—but 'Shep' came in."

"Was the bull vicious?" we asked, rather stupidly. "Last week I would have said not a bit vicious. I raised him from a calf. He is now three years old, and all that time he has been as docile as a setting hen. For some time I have been taking him out for a short walk in the yard. That morning I figured on letting him in the big field for a spell, and we were almost up to the field gate, when he hit me like a cyclone. He knocked me down; but I managed to grab his horn and ear, and was almost on my feet when I went down again, and say, Mister, it's a terrible thing to be killed by a bull. Just when I thought it was about over 'Shep' came in from I really don't know where, and he sure made that bull forget me for a minute or two—and I had time to get out of the yard. Good old 'Shep'."

The handsome Scotch collie was the hero of the hour and here he was stretched out in his master's bedroom—usually forbidden territory—with his long nose on the floor, held by a paw on each side. His brown eyes looked with admiration on his master, while his big, feather-like tail beat a rhythmic tattoo on the carpet. "Shep" has the run of the house now. "He always will," observed the farmer. "Even the wife says there is nothing too good for 'Shep'." In the meantime, "Shep" was obviously trying to say, "On shucks; it was nothing."

Why do they do it? Shortly before this farmer nearly lost his life a farmer was killed by his bull not far from Goderich, and another man was trampled to death in Quebec. Every year a dozen or so good men lose their lives in this fashion. Apparently, there are some men who refuse to accept the possibility that their bovine purchase may change instantly from a quiet, docile animal into a raging cyclone of destruction. Experts tell us that there is no such thing as a safe bull, and that to ignore this fact means the loss of human life at regular intervals. However, there are farmers who never forget that there is a potential killer under their barn roof. These men are always on the alert,

Notes By The Way

A notice at All Hallows-by-the-Tower, in London, reads: "Not everyone who enters this church is converted. Please watch your handbags."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

We've never figured it out—is golf good for the wind, or is it the only people with the gift of the gab who play golf?—Hamilton Spectator.

Two cheese sandwiches a week eaten by every Canadian would lift the cheese business out of the doldrums and add a health-giving item to our diet. It would make the difference between the cheese industry being in the red or in the black. As things are now Canadians eat 5.8 pounds of cheese a year. Norwegians consume 18.7 pounds. "You can do many things with cheese—makes sandwiches, rarebits, salads and flavoring. It comes in assorted types and many flavors. It is nutritious, satisfying, available and Canadian-made. We should eat more of it."—London Free Press.

According to Dr. Ralph H. Banay, an American psychiatrist, the most expensive and least effective method of protection against criminality is punishment and retribution. Dr. Banay's opinion, based on years of study of the inmates of Sing Sing prison, would only reinforce the general trend of thought in the audience before which he expressed it the other day—the joint convention of the Canadian Penal Association and the American Prison Association in Toronto. An examination of figures showing the high percentage

of repeaters among the prison population gives sufficient evidence to support the argument.—Ottawa Evening Citizen.

The Charlottetown Guardian has received with pleasure the news of the appointment of Lieutenant General Maurice Pope being chosen as Canada's first ambassador to Spain and notes that although not an Islander by birth he "is very close to being able to lay claim to this distinction because his grandfather was Colonial Secretary of Prince Edward Island at Confederation. "Almost an Islander" is the heading of the Guardian item and it is refreshing to us, as it must be to General Pope, to have all his other achievements and honors given second place to a near miss. Island pride is nothing to sneer at and it has been a strong asset to the little province on the sea. We have never heard of anyone writing that a distinguished Canadian was "Almost an Ottawan" or "Nearly a Torontonian". That probably means we are not as alert in our community loyalties as we ought to be and thereby have missed some of the savor of living.—Ottawa Journal.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

NEWSPAPER ITEMS From The Examiner, Nov. 29, 1879: The cent nuisance is again the cause of much complaint by our merchants. We are credibly informed that in many city stores buckets full of this coin are lying idle. This is really a hardship to our merchants, who cannot refuse to take them in payment for small wares. Once in the coffee, there they remain, as those who tender script invariably refuse to take them in exchange.

The Rev. William Taylor, of world-wide missionary fame, may be expected here by steamer this evening from Pictou, and will occupy the pulpit in Prince Street Methodist Church, morning and evening tomorrow, and in the afternoon in the Second Methodist Church, at 3:15. This gentleman is well known everywhere as the "California Street Preacher."

The Charlottetown Brick Company have already all their plant on the ground, and sufficient clay turned up for half a million bricks, which they will commence upon immediately after the frost disappears in the spring. We are assured that this company will be able, owing to their proximity to the Railway and the city, to supply bricks at rates that will make building with this material as cheap as wood. Mr. F. W. Hyndman is agent for the company.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer DYNAMITE AND THE ARTS OF PEACE

Wednesday of this week is the 120th anniversary of the birth of Alfred Bernhard Nobel who is remembered chiefly as the inventor of dynamite and the founder of the Nobel prizes for outstanding achievement in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and Peace. His very practical patronage of the arts and sciences was, in a sense a result of his inventive skill. It was the way he chose to reimburse mankind, partially at least, for the added destruction of life and property which his invention of dynamite made a virtual certainty.

This prediction of universal doom has voiced whenever a new invention with potential destructive properties has been revealed. No doubt it was made when the first crude gun replaced the bow and arrow. So with the torpedo, the aeroplane, and, in these latter days, the atom and hydrogen bombs. In each development some have seen the imminent and total destruction of civilization. And it is certainly true that the marginal line between survival and destruction has been at times very thin. These days it is thinner than ever before, and there are plenty of deep and sane thinkers, quite apart from the habitual prophets of gloom, who argue that the time for restoring the rapidly vanishing line is fast running out. There are some who say that nothing anyone can do now will be good enough to save the world from being blown to pieces.

Scientific inventors like Alfred Nobel, whose humanitarian instincts have been quite as strong as their scientific curiosity, have always found themselves in a moral predicament. Good and bad possibilities have come with every new invention and discovery. How to encourage the former and render impotent the latter has been, we may be sure, a source of real anxiety to many scientists. The invention of dynamite certainly added new ways and techniques of destruction to those which were already in operation. It also has rendered much useful service to industry and exploration. The inventor himself was responsible for neither the one nor the other. His task was finished when he brought about the amalgamation of certain forces which together would do certain things. The task of bringing these forces, when amalgamated, to constructive ends, quite obviously belonged to another sphere—the moral. And it seems that the supreme predicament of man is that somehow his

HALLOWED GROUND Ancient Roman law protected any area containing monuments of the dead with upmost reverence.

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