

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, JAN. 3, 1953

The Common Man Non-Existent

Perhaps the greatest mistake being made in this generation is the tendency to view human beings in the mass. We accept as gospel such obvious absurdities as that the average household consists of 3.7 or some equally impossible number of members.

Human beings are essentially individual and must be treated as such. The approach to government, education, medicine, or employment which denies that individuality is unbearably repressive, however just and logical it may seem on the basis of averages.

It is not claimed that the minority should be permitted to govern the majority, but that we should be reluctant to lay down hard and fast rules on the basis of majority opinion. It is not impossible that the minority have as much right and justice on their side as have the majority.

C.N.R. Innovations

A striking feature of the year-end report of President Donald Gordon of the Canadian National Railways system is the indication of aggressive policies which are already taking shape, designed to curtail revenue losses and in time create new income from new types of freight traffic.

Mr. Gordon's frank recognition of the fact that no single transportation medium any longer can serve the country's needs is a clue to his methods. To begin with, he has inaugurated a combined railway-highway system of freight transport between Montreal and Toronto.

In addition, ancillary truck and bus services are being inaugurated to supplement rail services in certain parts of the country. They are not only holding traffic which otherwise might go to competitors, but owing to the railway's capacity to make deliveries over transcontinental distances, they are creating some new traffic.

"Iron Curtain"

A Soviet news expert protested against the use of the term "iron curtain" in a document circulated by the United Nations because, he said, it was coined by Joseph Goebbels, Nazi propaganda chief.

As a matter of fact, comments the New York Times, the term "iron curtain" was coined neither by Joseph Goebbels nor by Winston Churchill. As far back as 1930 it was used in the Soviet press. In January, 1930, the Literary Gazette in Moscow published an article by Lev Nikulin entitled The Iron Curtain. The article began: "When a stage catches fire, an iron curtain falls to separate the hall from the stage."

ning of the new Stalinist revolution. Nikulin's remarkable article expressed the anxiety which had spread among the Russian intelligentsia in the "year of the great change" when the "venturesome and stupid" Soviet rulers began pulling down the iron curtain between Russia and the west.

Today, of course, the appearance of such an article in the Soviet press would be quite impossible.

A Costly Acre

Word comes from Ottawa that the Cabinet has given the Defence Department authority to buy nearly an acre on the celebrated Massachusetts avenue in Washington. On it will be built a new headquarters for Canada's joint Military Staff Mission.

"Undoubtedly," comments the Montreal Gazette, "the staff of Canada's joint Military Mission needs to be properly accommodated in Washington. Perhaps the size and location of the land purchased are exactly what the Mission must have, and there may be no reason for questioning whatsoever. But in view of certain recent disclosures about Defence Department spending, it might be reassuring to know exactly why the Military Staff Mission cannot get along with less than nearly an acre of land on one of Washington's most fashionable avenues. And it would also be interesting to know (perhaps in due course) just what the proposed building will cost."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 2nd Sunday after Christmas.

The Atlantic Provinces are always well ahead of the game in the matter of having the first baby born in Canada in the new year. Newfoundland has, of course, a further half-hour advantage over the other three Provinces.

Clearing a woodlot is like killing the goose that lays the golden eggs. More and more farmers are finding that a well-managed woodlot is both useful and profitable. The work of the Provincial Chief Forester has made both information and seedlings available.

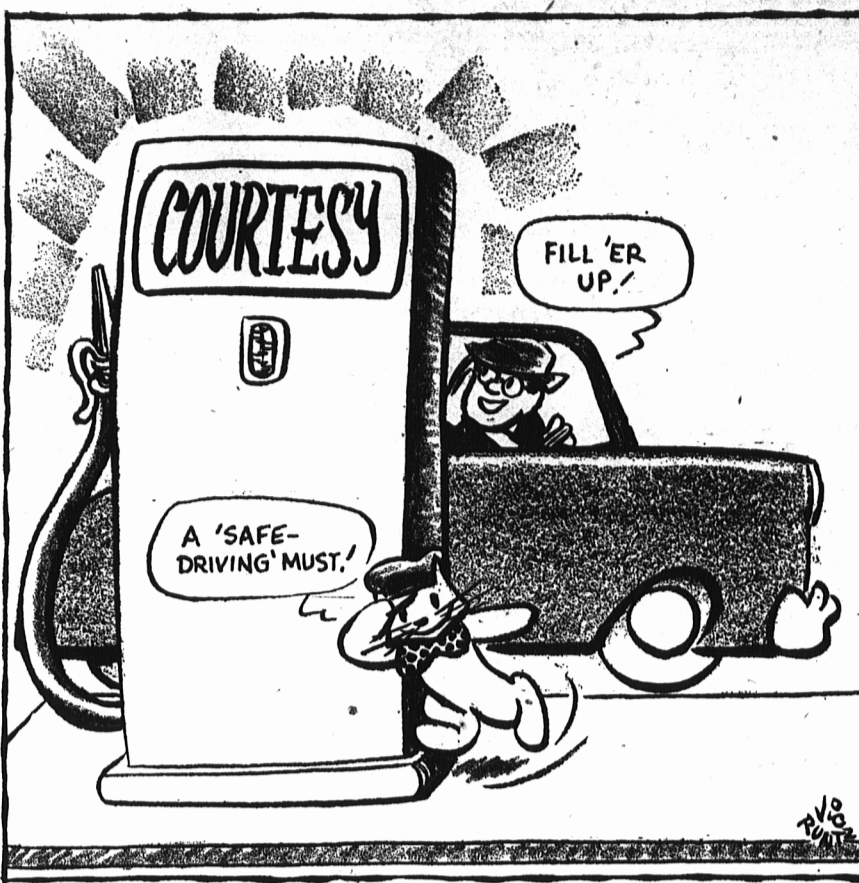
It is a pity that this Province will not be represented in the adjudication for the Dominion Drama Festival, the necessary three entries not having been obtained by Dec. 31. It is to be hoped that those who counted on entering go ahead with their productions and be so much ahead for next year.

The story of the Crown Jewels, which is being told in pictorial form beginning today, has all the romance of authentic history. Although "St. Edward's Crown" was made for Charles II to replace the original destroyed by Cromwell and the Imperial Crown dates only from 1838, many of the jewels are historic. They include a ruby which belonged to the Black Prince and was worn by Henry V at Agincourt and the sapphire from the ring of Edward the Confessor.

Clement Richard Attlee, British statesman, was born this date 1883. He was educated at Oxford and called to the Bar in 1905. He lectured on social science, served in the Army in the First World War, became mayor of Stepney and then M.P. for Limehouse division of Stepney from 1922 to the present. He held a number of cabinet posts but declined to support Ramsay MacDonald. Leader of the Opposition, he joined Churchill's Government in May, 1940, and succeeded Churchill following the post-war election. He is now leader of the Opposition.

As the fishing industry plays such an important part in the economy of Scotland it is natural that there should be several research institutions connected with the fisheries around the coasts. One of these which has already won international renown for itself is the Marine Biological Research Station at Millport, a small town on a small island, the Greater Cumbrae, in the Firth of Clyde. Recent work carried out there has been on the use of submarine television. Great interest is being taken in this new technique of observation and investigation, and hopes are high that it will lead to much wider knowledge of underwater life. Larger vessels and more staff have allowed the research work to be pushed farther afield, and during 1952 two of the senior members visited waters off Plymouth, in the South of England, and then the much colder waters off Tromsø, in Northern Norway.

For The Road



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.

GOOD HEALTH

Sir.—The manager of a business institution sends out every month quite an instructive pamphlet on subjects relating to social conduct or maybe business practice. The last contains advice at great length, which if followed, should result in health of mind and body. But to begin with, these precautions are like making New Year resolutions, which generally result in failure, because our characters are pretty well set when we reach adulthood.

To read of some of the things advised we notice these: Learn to handle worry and throw it into the waste basket. Relax the muscles completely in sleep, or if in conversation with any one, or when waiting for a call on the telephone. I suppose also if in a traffic jam on the street, we should be perfectly relaxed. Then we must not hurry nor work more than five days per week, take a yearly vacation, take plenty sleep, carry none of the day's affairs into the night rest. But in St. Paul's words "wage" is sufficient for these things, or in King David's words, "It is high I cannot attain unto it."

The alcoholic joins the A.A.'s to get a cure, he must know that he can't cure himself. So one of the 12 steps in his recovery is, to quit trying and depend on the Great Power outside of himself. One addict told me that his first prayer each morning was "Oh God, keep me one more day without liquor." I understand that one other step is to jump in to help save another weakling.

I knew a man that worked in a place where food was prepared. He had his health partly spoiled by picking at food between meals. He found it so difficult to break the habit that he had to pretty much like the liquor addicts.

Since the last war we read of the flying ace, Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker. He was one time addressing a group of veteran airmen who were wounded in body and badly shaken in mind and soul. The Captain is a man of inspired faith, and in the middle of his talk he stopped and then said earnestly, "If there is any one of you who have not yet had an experience of God, my advice to him is, to go out after it and get it."

Medicine, psychiatry and religion have their place in the restoring of those who are broken up. An Old Testament writer said: "He healeth all my diseases". He did not exaggerate. Inquire about it—this experience of God. The best doctor is one who has been healed himself.

I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MacKENZIE Kensington, P. E. I.

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. . . . And David went out withersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely; and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants. And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistines, that the women came out of all cities of Israel singing and dancing, to meet King Saul with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of music. And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands. And Saul was

Notes By The Way

If you trace the word "idiot," you'll find it comes from the Greek "idiotes." According to the who did no voting. This makes Greeks, the "idiotes" were citizens just as much sense today as it did in ancient Athens or Sparta. An American citizen who does not use his right to vote is an idiot.—Boston Traveler.

People in West Germany are giving a stained-glass window for the new cathedral at Coventry in England. The old cathedral after the German bombers left it—no windows, no roof, fragments of walls—was a melancholy spectacle. Now other Germans are donating what is in their power to show a better feeling.—Ottawa Journal.

This door-to-door selling of Christmas cards, magazines, and many other items could become a serious matter and could quite easily put some stores out of business. If the public likes having the things it wants brought to it on a silver platter, door-to-door selling might become a Frankenstein. Not only would the average household's doorbell be ringing five times as often as it does now, but hundreds of clerks and other store employees might eventually be out of work.—Lethbridge Herald.

In all the prison riots which have taken place on this continent during the past year or so there was one complaint the prisoners had in common—overcrowding. It may not always have been the issue, but the fact was there, nevertheless. The prisons are too large and too congested. Maintaining discipline is becoming increasingly difficult and almost non-effective where crowded conditions necessitate the bunching together of all types of hardened criminals with those whom society hopes to rehabilitate.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

In Hockham, England, a mysterious character (who may be a poacher) has been tapping on the doors of old people who are poor. He disappears into the night before they get to the door. But on the doorstep is a package containing a pheasant, and a card saying: "We have taken it from the gentry who have birds in plenty to give to the old who rarely have any." Several elderly recipients, being conscientious, have asked the police what to do with the pheasants. "Eat them," said the police.—New York Herald Tribune.

very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed just thousands; and what can he have more than the kingdom?

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The Passing Scene

No doubt it was the frost that did it aided by the warmth from within. However, in this respect as in so many others one envies the happy imagination of the little child who believes that during the night some elfin stranger came along and drew the pictures. In any case it is one more credit to be marked up for winter, for neither spring nor summer, nor yet autumn, is capable of such genius. As I looked at the brilliant assortment early this morning I could easily imagine myself to be in one of the great picture galleries of the world. "Without money and without price," and without interference from guides or anyone else, I could let my eyes feast on beauty and perfection. I can mention here only a few of the many wonders that looked out from our picture window.

The most striking of all was a well drawn map of P. E. I. such as one sees when flying over the Island in the middle of June. Names of places, being unimportant, were not marked, but about everything else was clearly shown. Neatly laid out farm lands, looking for all the world like the toy blocks which youngsters delight in at Christmas time; hosts of cattle some grazing in the meadows, others gambolling, glad to be free; here and there a tiny stream patiently and joyously trying to find its way to the sea; patches of woods and pretty flower gardens; the laughing gleam of the sun on "the upland lawn". The artist drew it all faithfully and well with a good eye for the fine details of form and harmony. The picture of the man lazily fishing for trout (with worms, I suspect to say) was a surprise, being a bit out of season. This is the time of year when trout fishermen are in varying moods of tactfulness. A little too late for reminiscing on last year's experiences and a little too early to anticipate what may lie ahead, so there doesn't seem to be much to talk about. Surprising how the time goes, however. Any day now rods will be taken out for inspection; lines for testing, reels for oiling, and so on. All in preparation for new conquests to attempt, new exaggerations to make up new strange stories to relay. These things and others of interest only to myself came to mind when I saw the man in the window.

As the sun rose higher and higher the pictures made in the night began to disappear one by one. Some words written by the poet Emerson have lingered in my thoughts all during the day. "To the attentive eye each moment of the year has its own beauty, and in the same field it beholds every hour a picture which was never seen before and which shall never be seen again".

The Poet's Corner

A SAILOR'S GRAVE Out of the winds' and waves' riot, Out of the loud foam . . . He has put in to a great quiet And a still home. Here he may lie at ease and wonder Why the old ship waits, And hark for the surge and the strong thunder Of the full Straits. And look for the fishing fleet at morning, Shadows like lost souls, Slide through the fog where the seal's warning Betrays the shoals. And watch for the deep-sea liner climbing Out of the bright West, With a salmon sky and her wake shining Like a tern's breast— And never know he is done forever With the old sea's pride, Borne from the fight and the full endeavour On an ebb tide. —Marjorie Pickthall

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