

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, NOV. 28, 1952

Winter Driving Hazards

A new booklet has been issued by the National Safety Council which sets down for the first time the results of eleven years of test research by the Council's committee on winter driving hazards. The booklet is aimed at reducing the high death and accident rates resulting from inadequate traction and reduced visibility—the major winter driving problems from November through February. Six basic rules for safe winter driving are offered.

Emphasis is placed on the need of getting "the feel of the road" while driving slowly and away from other traffic, to find out just how slippery the road is; on adjusting speed to road and weather conditions so that one can stop or maneuver safely; on keeping windshields clear, and keeping headlights, wiper blades and defrosters in topnotch condition; on using tire chains on snow and ice, which cut stopping distances about in half, and increase starting and hill-climbing traction by four to seven times; on pumping brakes to slow down or stop (jamming them can lock the wheels and throw the car into a dangerous skid); and on keeping well back of the car ahead, so that there is ample room to stop, remembering that without tire chains it takes three to twelve times as far to stop on snow and ice as on dry concrete.

All tires, except big truck sizes, are now made largely of synthetic rubber. The committee reported that while these tires wear better, perform normally on dry or wet pavement and have other advantages, they skid about 8 percent farther on snow and ice and have 14 to 35 percent poorer forward traction ability than pre-war natural rubber tires. Reinforced tire chains, described as "the best self-help available to the driver," reduce breaking distances on both snow and ice about half, increase forward traction on ice about seven times, and on packed snow outpull conventional tires nearly four times.

Britain's Future

A good thought for our Canadian statesmen, and all participating in the Commonwealth Conference at London to bear in mind, is contained in the following words spoken on his recent visit to Ottawa by Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, British Secretary of State and Deputy Prime Minister. Mr. Eden was addressing a service club, and he dealt with numerous problems confronting the United Nations at the present time.

"I know," he said, "there are some who believe that the contribution Britain can make in the modern world is a declining one. I do not accept that for one instant. On the contrary, I am convinced that the leadership and experience we have to give can be as decisive in shaping world events as at any time in all our long history. The mood of our people is one of confidence and resolution. Two world wars, in which we fought with you from the beginning to the end, may for a time have drained our material resources. But the opportunities are still there. We can rebuild within this Commonwealth and Empire. Our skill in so many technical fields can command a future for our people. Our political experience can lead and guide the world in its pursuit of peace. In both these spheres of industry and statecraft, Britain has much to give. I pray that she may make her contribution, not in any narrow sense, but in a true fulfilment of her destiny and in the service of mankind."

\$180 To The Good

The Income Tax Appeal Board has rejected the appeal of a parent who asked no more children's allowance payments be made for his three offspring and then argued he should be allowed to deduct \$180 from his income for tax purposes. He contended, unsuccessfully, that by declining the amount he would have received in allowances for a year he was making a gift to the Crown.

The board, notes the Ottawa Journal, takes the precise position that no gift was made to the Crown because the taxpayer could not make a gift of something he never had, and adds, as a second conclusion, that in any event, he didn't have a receipt to show the minister of national revenue that he had made a gift to the Crown. "No one is to argue that the board was

wrong in its ruling, but there is a point here," comments the Journal. "Most parents, rich and poor, accept the children's allowance without question, just as old-age pensioners, again rich or poor, take whatever payment is issued to them. Taxation is a great leveller and it is designed so that the rich will not become richer by virtue of allowances paid by the state.

"It may be fearfully complicated and an abomination to the orderly accountant's mind, but we should not be so hidebound that we cannot give a thought to the individualist who doesn't want the state to help him in maintaining his children. The parent in the case we mention may not have given a gift to the Crown, but it is evident that the general revenues of Canada are \$180 to the good because he refused to accept the payments he could have collected. That may not be a gift, technically, but the Queen has \$180 she didn't expect to have and that's \$180 the rest of the taxpayers will not have to raise for government expenses."

Korean News Unread?

The Vancouver Sun wanted to find out if anyone is reading stories about the Korean War. So it ran the same dispatch three days in a row. What happened? Nothing, reports the Canadian Press. Not one of The Sun's 500,000 readers phoned to check the "error." The editors pointed out that whenever a comic strip or feature column is dropped or repeated the switchboard is deluged with calls from irate readers. "Deafening silence" was the only reaction to the repetition of the Korean story, The Sun said. The story was printed on the front page each day.

Yet it would be inaccurate to say that people are unaware of the Korean War or indifferent to it, suggests an exchange. It is appalling and fraught with great danger of spreading into global war. It is the fact that the opposing forces in Korea are fighting it out along a line where the changes in the front are confined to a number of strategic peaks changing hands back and forth, that makes it seem a repetitious affair.

It would not do to fail to pay attention to what is happening in Korea. Canadians are in the thick of the fight. A newly-arrived Canadian battalion—the 3rd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry—went into action there last week. We cannot afford to be indifferent about our own flesh and blood.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Cars operating without proper lights are a menace on the highways and with longer hours of after-dark driving the R. C. M. P. are making a special effort to deal with such offenders.

A committee of the Standards Division of the Department of Trade and Commerce has been set up to study the matter of standard sizes of women's clothes. It is too much to hope, of course, that every woman will ever be able to get an accurate fit off the rack but it should be possible to know that a particular size means the same thing at different times and in different makes of clothing.

It is not altogether a matter for congratulation that this Province is the only one not showing an increase in the number of patients in mental institutions. The figures represent accommodation available probably more accurately than the standard of mental health. A start has been made in the treatment of mental patients here but it would be wrong to assume on the basis of statistics that the need is less than in other parts of Canada.

Marketing is a complex procedure and potato markets are particularly sensitive to various factors. The minimum price for table stock set by the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board cannot be allowed to get out of line with overall conditions. Dealers fear, of course, that an impractical minimum price would cut off sales completely during important shipping periods, while the Board feels competent to set a reasonable figure which will prevent "distress selling" without pricing Island potatoes off the market.

William Blake, English poet and engraver, was born this date 1757. Always a mystic, he believed that much of his work was dictated by angels and other supernatural beings. He was apprenticed to an engraver and later experimented with printing from etched copper plates. In addition to his many prophetic books, he illustrated Hayley's "Life of Cowper", Blair's "Grave", Milton's "Paradise Lost" and "Divina Commedia". His work would rank even higher had it been disciplined in conception and expression.

Taking Them As They Come



Notes From Another Island

By "Anon"

LONDON, England.—Not for a long time has our public conscience been so vigorously exercised as lately over the question of corporal punishment for crimes of violence; and not for a long time has there been a matter on which some action by the authorities was so clearly demanded by the people.

On many of the social issues which have confronted us in recent years opinion has been sharply divided with no overwhelming preponderance of thought on the one side as against the other. Perhaps this state of affairs arises out of our political beliefs. Indeed it is more than likely, for most of our internal controversies since the war have sprung from the ideas of one or other of our main political parties, and two general elections within recent memory have shown clearly enough that the country is pretty well equally divided in this respect.

But on this matter of suitable violence against innocent persons retribution for those convicted of the division of opinion is far from balanced: the scales are heavily weighted in favour of giving the thugs a taste of their own medicine.

This sort of "medicine," until a few years ago, took the form of a number of strokes of the cat-o-nine-tails. It was a drastic punishment, administered under medical supervision, and was not out of the line of things. Many high-minded people, themselves law-abiding citizens, were not happy about it. To them, the "cat" seemed a barbarous implement, quite out of place in this enlightened age.

Whether they let their loftiness of purpose overrule more practical considerations was—and is—a matter for debate. At all events corporal punishment in all forms was abolished in 1948. Later it was reinstated for attacks on prison officials, but for offences against the public it was a thing of the past; banished, it was argued by its opponents, like other relics of less civilised days.

Almost at once—or so it seemed, though statistics were produced to show it was not—crimes of violence increased. Soon afterwards agitation began for its reinstatement. Petitions were organised to this end by citizens who believed themselves to be acting in the public interest from ideals as righteous as those which led to the abolition of the punishment in the first place.

Eventually came a lull. The public agitation died down. Perhaps there were other matters of greater national importance to occupy our minds; or perhaps the incidence of violence in crime really did fall off; or, again, perhaps it did not, and we just got used to it.

Whatever it was, the whole business was left as it was. But lately the controversy has flared up again, with greater emphasis than ever before on the need for some measures to be taken to protect innocent people from being attacked. Not a day goes by without reports being heard of vicious assaults. No section of the population is immune: old people and young of both sexes; rich and poor; the police themselves in the execution of their duties.

It would be wrong to say that everyone goes in fear. We are far from becoming an anarchy. It may be that such attacks are given prominence in our newspapers because they are the subject of controversy. Yet the fact that violence is used in robbery at all is disquieting to us, who like to think of ourselves generally as a peaceable race.

And now it is more than a controversy. People are demanding action to curb the activities of the thugs. It is doubtful if they will easily be put off the arguments that crime has not increased since flogging was abolished, for anger is now playing a part. A goal sentence is not regarded as sufficient

The Poet's Corner

WEATHER MAP Here are the habits of a continent In sinuities of wind and rain And swirls of storms, in air of cool content, Caught in a moment's frieze of pleasure-pain.

The snakes of autumn twist about the land Nosing their wind-guiles, turning on their tails; A frown of clouds follows a far command Like cattle surging in a sun-swept gale

Frozen time, this gelatin of air Insinuates tomorrow in design Of Now's behavior, like an asp's snare Of motionless emotions, line by line.

And yet this wisdom, symbolized on a chart, Fashions no ethics for the weathered heart. —Harold Zlotnik, in the New York Times.

retribution for monsters who would beat an old woman for the sake of a few pounds; nor is it thought painful enough to act as a deterrent to other criminals who might contemplate a similar crime.

There is impatience with the school of thought that defends law-breakers as unfortunate social misfits or victims of an unhappy childhood, to be pampered or at least treated with sympathetic understanding. Any sympathy there is should go to their victims, is the prevailing mood; and as for understanding, by all means let the criminals be shown that they are understood plainly for what they are.

It is said that we have a hiebh developed sense of fair play. But fair play surely is only a name of sticking to the rules. Those who do so are entitled to protection against the activities of those who do not. In this larger matter there is a strong case for making the penalties for infringement so severe as to make infringements most unwise.

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN.—(CP)—A new jet plane built in Sweden for the Swedish Air Force has made its test flights. Known as the A-32 or "Lance" it is heavily-armed and does about 690 miles an hour. It carries a crew of two.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MARRIAGE LICENSES From a petition to the Legislative Assembly, presented by Mr. Dalrymple on March 7, 1834, from the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Prince Edward Island:

"That the people among whom petitioners labour are warmly attached to the Presbyterian form of church government; but many of them feel a backwardness to have intended marriages published three several Sabbaths in the face of the whole congregation—that as to the correctness of their feelings on this point petitioners cannot say much, but think their feelings are as much entitled to respect, as that they would wish to be married by license, but complain that the right of being married by their own Ministers in this way is withheld from them—and praying the House to take such steps as shall seem fit and proper for removing this disability under which they, in common with all other of His Majesty's dissenting subjects in this Island, labour."

It was noted by the committee appointed to consider this petition that a bill to regulate the celebration of marriages had been passed in the year 1832, the chief object of which was to extend the privilege of performing the marriage ceremony, either by license or by proclamation of banns, to all regularly ordained clergymen of whatever denomination having the charge of congregations in this Island. "This bill had been duly transmitted to the Home Government, and was awaiting the Royal allowance, which was subsequently given."

LONDON.—(CP)—A blood donor at a London hospital refused to rest, but collapsed as he reached the front door on his way out. He was put in a hospital bed and given a transfusion of his own blood.

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Notes By The Way

A married woman, known as the "powder-puff" bandit, was captured after she had dropped her handbag in the premises she had intended to rob. There wouldn't be any paucity of clues there—Windsor Star.

The Communist radio in Hungary has been gloating over the fact that "much dirty linen" was washed in the U. S. election campaign. Dirty linen, of course, does not get washed in the Communist one-party elections. It stays dirty.—Vancouver Province.

In Toronto it is being suggested that Ontario election campaigns should be longer—increased to 55 days. Whoever is responsible for this idea—it is before the Legislature's committee on the Election Act—should be locked up. Fifty-five days of electioneering in a province like Ontario would be a frightful nonsense. —Ottawa Journal.

An addition may shortly be expected to the long list of learned works by men of the law, such as Addison on Torts and Russell on Crimes. It will be Assuith on Muffins and Crumpets. Lord Assuith of Bishoptone is the jurist who deplores the gradual displacing of the Englishman's former mainstay by the latter, defined by him, with legal precision, as "limp, lardaceous, pockmarked parodies of muffins." —Ottawa Citizen.

That Canada is still a land of opportunities, for those who have the courage and vision to seize one when it comes, is shown by the career of Area Struyk, who lives near Cochrane, Ontario. An immigrant from Holland, Mr. Struyk arrived in the Cochrane district three years ago. His worldly wealth consisted of an old car and \$17 in cash. He had eleven children to support. Today he owns six farms and is worth \$26,000. Incidentally, Mr. Struyk, asked to what he owed his success, replied by quoting the Biblical text: "Whosoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." That was a favorite motto among the early pioneers, and it is still a good one. —Edmonton Journal.

The possibility that there may be oil in the Arctic archipelago in the vicinity of Cornwallis Island, where the R. C. A. F. now has a small detachment from Air Transport Command, has implications of the greatest importance for North American defence. Favorable indications discovered by two young Canadian Government geologists lie about midway between U. S. Arctic defence bases in Alaska and Greenland. If oil is present and can be developed reasonably soon near Cornwallis Island, a dangerous gap in the North American Arctic defences can be filled in.—Vancouver Province.

Significant news from Canada's capital is that a growing number of Canadians who went to the United States at one time or another to live, are returning to their native land. The number returning during the first nine months of this year is 3,793, as compared with 2,877 in the corresponding nine months of 1951. It is typical of human nature that our rejoicing over the return of these Canadians is not nearly so noisy as was the wailing which accompanied their departure. —Fort William Times-Journal.

In St. Louis a well-to-do business man is dead, having been shot by guards as he attempted to hold up a money truck. Now police are wondering why a man in his position would stoop to a crime of that nature. Their assumption, and it's plausible, is that he was attempting to commit a "perfect crime," to confirm a personal conviction that it could be done. There is some evidence he had a "superman" complex. Many men of keen mind read detective stories for the relaxation and mental stimulation they provide. The St. Louis case doubtless will convince most of them that perfect crimes should only be committed vicariously.—Windsor Star.

One of the most significant features of the presidential campaign was the breaking of the Solid South. Florida, Virginia, Texas and Oklahoma voted for Eisenhower and the border States went Republican. In the remaining Southern States Eisenhower, while not winning, piled up the largest vote ever polled by a Republican candidate. The Solid South no longer exists and in future no party will be able to take the South for granted. It is a good thing for the country. The Civil War may now be considered as over.—London Free Press.

The Age-Old Story

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

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