

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, AUG. 21, 1951

New Prince County Hospital

The citizens of Summerside in particular and of Prince County in general are to be warmly congratulated upon their magnificent new Hospital, erected at a cost of nearly one million dollars, with a capacity of 108 beds and with the most modern facilities in design and equipment.

This fine new institution is the materialization of many months of careful planning on the part of the board of trustees and medical staff of the Prince County Hospital, who have realized for some time the inadequacy of the accommodations provided in the old building.

The Skeleton in Freedom's Closet

There can be no denying the fact that Spain, as "The Spectator" of London points out, "is the skeleton in the European cupboard."

Even political skeletons, however, have their uses at times. It is, therefore, a tribute to the realism of the Americans that they have chosen to open the closet door and take a look at the ragtag and bobtail of the Franco regime to see whether it can be used to advantage in the face of the even greater menace of the totalitarianism of the left as exemplified by Soviet Russia.

The Spanish situation needs to be viewed at this time solely in strategic, political and economic terms. Emotional and ethical considerations should not, for the moment, be allowed to blind us to the fact that a strengthened Spain within the framework of the western defensive alliance is more important than a disintegrating Spain torn by revolution outside the alliance.

The delicate question of pourparlers with Franco can undoubtedly be handled to advantage provided those engaged in the negotiations bear in mind the ancient adage that "he who supps with the devil needs must use a long spoon."

Mutual Funds

A form of investment which has been gaining popularity in recent years is that of investment companies whose shares are redeemable by the holder at the current asset value. Instead of investing directly in companies of his own selection, the investor puts his money in such mutual funds and leaves to the management the task of selecting a suitable portfolio of securities.

The scheme has its advantages but unfortunately it is another step in the seemingly endless process of centralization. The financial experts of such funds are more familiar, of course, with national trends and those of big business than the small investor can possibly be.

It would seem to be the part of wisdom, and good public relations, for such funds to allot, so far as possible, their investments across the country in direct proportion to local purchases.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Princess Margaret born this date 1930.

Grafton and Kent Streets will rise greater and better from the ashes of the conflagration.

Charlottetown is a city of trees, but few except those flying overhead appreciate the completeness of the leafy covering.

Insurance companies did not experience all loss from Saturday's fire; there was an immediate demand for new and increased policies.

"The best laid schemes of mice and men" in Edinburgh went awry all right when the thousand "pipers and a' and a'" became lost in the crowd.

Preliminary census reports seem to indicate that one biblical rule is still valid. To him (or the community) that hath will be given.

British and French forces captured Taku forts from the Chinese this date 1860. The treaty of Peking was signed, ratifying the terms of the treaty of Tientsin.

Official speeches of welcome to the Royal couple are to be limited to one hundred words. Such a country-wide exercise in brevity would itself make the visit well worth while.

The measures being proposed to reduce the danger of fire in this city are less important than the vigilance of citizens and officials in noting and correcting fire hazards even when there have been no recent outbreaks.

A special Providence is said to take care of children in pranks, and was illustrated when some of them loaded a tractor at the Exhibition Grounds, started it, and allowed it to turn over then throwing them to the ground unhurt; while a truckman helping in removing equipment to the station got his leg broken in a collision.

Racial discrimination in Brazil has become a penal offence. Under the new law a refusal by hotels, restaurants, and schools to admit coloured people is punishable by imprisonment or fine.

One major difference between BBC and CBC, is that CBC getting all the license fees, still finds itself unable to pay its way; leans more and more heavily on the taxpayers, while in the case of BBC, the Royal Commission drew attention to the fact that it now has a large surplus, and reasonably suggested that that surplus should be tapped by the Government in the form of taxation.

Alginate Industries, Ltd., of Obar, Argyllshire, Scotland, is now the second biggest producer of its kind in the world and exports alginate to 17 overseas countries. Algin is a basic chemical, extracted from seaweed, which replaces gelatine. It is used in soup and ice-cream manufacture and in the moulding of dentures, it also goes to Malaya where it plays its part in rubber production.

Prince Edward Island and the Dominion Government have lost an admirable civil servant in the retirement of Dr. E. S. Notting, senior officer in the Health and Animals Division, Federal Department of Agriculture. Dr. Notting has resided here since 1921, and has held his present important position since the retirement of Dr. Pethick in 1933.

A picture of the reasons for the neglect of agriculture, in favour of industrial expansion, is well given in the following extract from a bulletin of the American Farm Bureau Federation: "When the average factory worker eats his breakfast before his eight-hour shift it will take him only nine minutes and 45 seconds of labour to pay for it—two slices of toast, two slices of bacon, a whole potato, two eggs and a glass of milk. His father in 1914 had to spend 32 minutes and 48 seconds at the factory to secure the same hearty meal."

Kolapore Cup Winners Return



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) SHORTHAND EXTOLLED

It will surprise many to learn that courses in shorthand were being offered in Charlottetown as early as the year 1831. Unfortunately, neither the teacher's name nor the system taught is given in the following grandiloquent advertisement appearing in the Royal Gazette of November 1 of that year:

"STENOGRAPHY. The writer proposes to give lessons in this most useful and pleasing art—useful, when the quibbles of law might perplex, or the mists of sophistry darken the understanding; for then, by this art, the truth may be elucidated, or falsehood developed. Words when they are first heard may have plausibility enough to impose on the keenest penetration; but if they are taken down by Stenography, and thereby subjected to review, the latent deceit will be discovered, and what is plausible will not longer be mistaken for what is real."

"Pleasing also it may justly be deemed, when we consider that by it we may make the copious effusions of animated eloquence all our own; catch the sublime, the soothing, or the beautiful recent, from the lips of the orator. When the honest advocate, disdaining the sordid bribe, and espousing the cause of the gull, less, though indigent, declaims against ruthless oppression, whether of the few powerful, or of the many headed monster, the noble, what a pleasing satisfaction will the ready practice of this art afford! In a word, with regard to all public discourses or speeches, we may, by this art, have it in our power to review at leisure what was advanced, to weigh the arguments which were adduced, consider their cogency or futility with respect to the point which the speaker aimed to establish. To these we may, in the calm of retirement, oppose the extenuation which was offered."

Japanese Peace

(United Kingdom Information Office)

The draft Japanese Peace Treaty which is due to be signed at San Francisco on September 8th, is an outstanding example of what can be achieved by Anglo-American co-operation. Not only is the draft treaty being sponsored jointly by the United States and the United Kingdom but its creation was in every sense a joint enterprise and resulted from close and frank consultation between representatives of the two nations.

In the final draft, which is now being studied by the Governments of the countries at war with Japan, about one-half of the text was wholly or mainly contributed by the British side. In this work, the British representatives had the advantage of having in the past devoted much time and study to the problem. Indeed, as long ago as August, 1947, the problems to be resolved in a peace settlement with Japan were carefully considered at a Commonwealth conference specially convened for the purpose in Canberra.

These problems have since then been continuously under review. In January, 1950, the framework of a draft Treaty was discussed with Commonwealth Foreign Ministers at their meeting in Colombo and there was at that time a fairly clear picture in British official minds of what the Treaty should look like.

Canoeing Britons

(Peterborough Examiner)

We in Canada have long known the joys, rigors, hazards and uses of canoeing. In fact, after all an indigenous Canadian means of locomotion and the first manufactured local product to put Peterborough on the maps of the world, "Canadian" canoes—which means, principally, Peterborough canoes—can be found on the Volga, the Danube, the Nile, and the Thames. (They are even found in novels, although we have yet to discover a thriller where a Peterborough canoe was the blunt instrument of murderous despatch.)

New canoe clubs have sprung up in all parts of Britain, it is estimated that there are now 10,000 canoeists using U.K. waters. One of the most strenuous races in the British sporting season is a 124-mile marathon for two-seater canoes. The course is from Devizes in Wiltshire to Westminster Bridge in London. Crews must carry full camping equipment and food for the journey. There are 77 locks to be circumnavigated during the 124-mile course. Such a race would exhaust most Canadian canoeists who are content to paddle around a lake or river for an hour or so of a summer's evening. The major British canoe race is fatiguing even to think on. The record time for the course is 24 hours. That means the contestants must eat on the run, and run with the gear and canoe around every one of the 77 locks.

John Foster Dulles was appointed to represent them in this task, there was no lack of material. The problem therefore was one of combining an American draft and a British draft which was based on several years of inter-Commonwealth consideration of the subject.

In addition to the roughly equal textual contribution by the two sides, there was a similarly commendable disposition to see the other side's point of view on those items on which there was basic disagreement. Most notable in this respect was the agreement reached on the important question of Chinese relationship with the treaty. Here each side took a difficult step to meet the other, by agreeing that neither of the two Chinese Governments which they respectively recognize should participate.

The resultant draft and the co-operative work that has gone into it proves what can be achieved in spite of serious initial differences by frank Anglo-American discussion. Joint sponsorship of it is visible evidence of continued British, as well as American, interest in Japan's destiny and underlines the fact that in this important Far Eastern matter Britain and the United States have been able to reach an agreed policy.

The Poet's Corner

A GARDEN SONG

Here, in alleys cool and green, Far ahead the thrush is seen; Here along the southern wall Keeps the bee his festival; All is quiet else—afar Sounds of toil and turmoil are Here be shadows large and long; Here be spaces meet for song; Grant, O garden-god, that I, Now that none profane is nigh— Now that mood and moment please— Find the fair Pierides!

—Henry Austin Dobson

The Age-Old Story

But thou, Bethlehem-Ephrath, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

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Notes By The Way

Cranksaw, the British expert on Russia, says that Stalin too, spends a lot of his time running in circles. We await the word, therefore, that the Russians invented baseball. — Sudbury Daily Star.

Prime Minister L. S. St. Laurent has been given the name "Sweet Grass" by an Indian tribe. All very well provided he doesn't become known within a few weeks as "musty Hay." — Windsor Daily Star.

Athletic prowess is a splendid thing. Winning teams are a pleasure, if one's sympathies happen to be on the winning side. But there are other things vastly more important in an educational system and one of them is character. Actually, the character of some institutions of learning and of some individuals who attend them has been seriously undermined by the false system of values that athletic overemphasis has set up.

Everything was quiet in the market-place of Cokermouth one morning recently until Susie, a cow (apparently discontented), broke her tether and headed for the shopping centre of the town. After some fancy acrobatics, she came to rest on the roof of a garage, having reached that point by way of an outside stairway leading to the emergency exit of a moving picture theatre. Three men from the market-place, who had been looking for Susie, managed to get a rope around her. Then they proceeded from two doors and got her back to the theatre stairway. From there it was a comparatively easy trip down the steps to the street—at least for such an experienced climber as Susie. — News Chronicle, London.

What happened to the fashion predictions of five and six years ago? Remember? — men were suffering in the Summer heat. They were going to cast off their conventional business clothes and emerge in cool, knee-length shorts and light shirts, open at the neck. A leader failed to arise in the school of featherweight clothing and the Canadian businessman continues to be miserable in his conventional business suit, complete with necktie. True, a few businessmen wear tropical suits and light shirts but the majority still swelter daily in the same garb worn in Winter wear. — Barrie Examiner.

A member of the French Senate from West Africa's Ivory Coast has failed to take his seat after the June recess of that assembly, and the suspicion is that he has been eaten by his constituents. In Canada, many hazards and pitfalls lie in the path of the man who ventures into public life. He may not get elected in the first place. He may be trimmed so badly that he forfeits the deposit required by law. Or he may suffer the misfortune of going to the House of Commons on the crest of a party tidal wave, and being relegated to the back benches and heard no more. The electors may not approve of his actions (or lack of them). But at this stage of Canada's development, at any rate, no member need count among his anxieties the possibility of becoming a meal for his constituents. This expression, "the political pot is boiling," does not carry such sinister implication. — Ottawa Citizen.

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