

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, 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 TUESDAY, AUG. 4, 1953

An Expanding Force

It was in 1873, just eighty years ago that the famous North-West Mounted Police was established to bring law and order in the unorganized territories where rebellion had recently been put down. Until 1920 their responsibilities were confined to those territories but in that year, with a change of name to Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the force assumed duties in the whole of Canada. Since 1932 the R.C.M.P. has been responsible for the enforcing of the customs and excise acts and is largely responsible for anti-subversive measures in time of war or emergency.

Recently the force has taken over extra policing duties in Newfoundland and British Columbia so that some expansion of numbers is to be expected. It is partly in connection with this that the force's Deputy Commissioner, John D. Bird, is visiting the various detachments in the Atlantic Provinces. A native of New Brunswick, he joined the R.C.M.P. in 1932 as an inspector, after having served in the New Brunswick Provincial Police.

There is probably no police force in the world which enjoys a higher public regard than the R.C.M.P. The Metropolitan Police of London are without peers in the policing of a close-knit, highly populated area and the "G-Men" are both admired and feared, but none so effectively represent their country as do the "Mounted."

Mink Farming And The Law

The learned editor of Chitty's Law Journal includes reference to the question of nuisance or negligence in two mink farm cases in his Random Notes. Admitting that the exact distinction between negligence and nuisance seems almost impossible of determination, he criticises, with great respect, minority opinions of the Supreme Court of Canada which would have allowed an appeal on the ground that the action was framed in nuisance and actionable nuisance was not shown, but if the action had been framed in negligence, particulars could have been demanded and other evidence would have been led to meet that charge.

The plaintiff had warned highway authorities that the whelping season was in progress and excessive noise might cause serious damage due to panic among the mink — a well known characteristic of mink at the whelping season. Despite orders to the contrary, the machines did operate nearby and serious loss resulted. In the other case a similar result came about after the defendant had been warned against blasting during the critical period.

The courts ruled that the respective defendants were liable for negligence. The editor of C.L.J. points out that these cases can be framed in either negligence or nuisance. The real cause of action is the nuisance — the noise — which becomes actionable by reason of its creation in a manner in which the foreseeability of risk of injury cast on the creator of the nuisance duty not to injure other persons. Whichever way a court might look at the legal problem it seems clear that a mink rancher has a right to have immunity from noise disturbance by people who know that it will cause harm.

U. S. Defense Spending

It is estimated in Washington that a lasting peace in Korea would result in a cutback of a billion dollars' worth of defense spending. The principal effect of such a cutback would be to release workers and raw materials for use in the manufacture of consumers' goods. Two results, warns The Globe and Mail, could affect Canada whenever these developments occur. The American market for our raw materials would dwindle, and the recently ready market for our partially and fully manufactured goods probably would suffer even more drastic curtailment. Further reference to the proportion of our domestic exports bought by the United States for free distribution overseas illustrates how our economy would be affected.

In the period between April 3, 1948, and March 30 this year the United States bought from us, for foreign aid purposes, a total of one billion five hundred and thirty-nine million dollars' worth of goods. That

was almost an even third of our domestic exports. What makes it highly significant is the fact that the total of these purchases was made up of 60.72 per cent of industrial products and 39.28 per cent of agricultural products.

It is a coincidence that the nine hundred million dollars' worth of industrial commodities and products is very close to the billion dollar cutback in sight for Washington defense spending. In other words, defense savings alone in the next few years will release more materials and men for civilian production than the Marshall Aid purchases from Canada since the spring of 1945. There is every reason to assume that during that period domestic output was satisfying the American home market for most industrial products. The only answer is that a cut in United States military production would be accompanied by a relative cut in imports of industrial goods and raw materials from Canada.

A Dominion Bureau of Statistics study recently showed that 54 per cent of our total exports last year went to the United States — which means that 46 per cent was the maximum volume we could sell to the rest of the world. Any cut in exports to America would therefore be a total loss to Canada, resulting in lower output of basic commodities, less wages being paid and less spending power in the whole community.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, 1900.

With no less than fifty-two students receiving aid from the St. Thomas Aquinas Society in attaining secondary education, the Society ranks as a very important educational force indeed in this Province.

Knut Hamsun, Norwegian author, was born this date 1859. He ran away to sea and had a variety of occupations, finally switching from that of journalist to novelist and dramatist. He wrote beautiful descriptions of scenery and forest life. He was a Quisling.

Canada went to war this date 1914 with a strength of 270 officers and 2,700 other ranks in her Permanent Militia and nominally about 3,850 officers and 44,500 other ranks in the "Active Militia." Actual strength at the outbreak of war was even less.

In 1943 Canadians suffered 2,804 cases of diphtheria and 287 deaths from that cause. In 1951 there were 253 cases and 37 deaths. The Health League of Canada attributes the notable improvement to the results of the annual National Immunization Week.

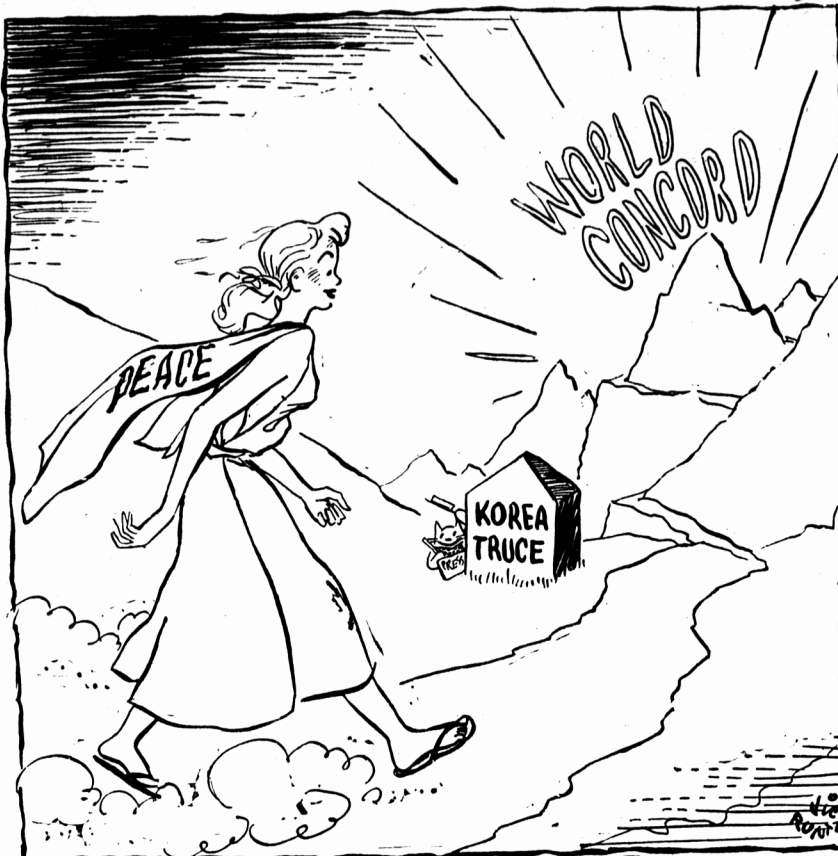
Electronically controlled equipment designed to duplicate functions of the human heart was one of the most important exhibits at the recent annual exhibition of the institution of electronics at the College of Technology, Manchester, England. The new equipment may make possible delicate heart and lung operations hitherto impossible.

Summerside High School is to be congratulated on the remarkable record of having all its candidates for the second year in succession pass the entrance examination. The record for high standing was equally impressive. Considering that the high school enables many to continue with their education who might otherwise have dropped out, the achievement is a very strong argument indeed for the provision of more such educational institutions.

A large, speedy helicopter, capable of replacing established fixed wing airplanes on inter-city flight routes within Britain, has been ordered by the British Ministry of Supply from a well known U.K. aircraft manufacturer. A 50-seater, rotating wing jet type, to be known as the Rotodyne, it will be powered by two Napier Eland propeller turbines and will have a higher cruising speed than any helicopter to date. Large loading doors at the tail end of the fuselage will make the helicopter adaptable for car ferry services or freight duty.

Though reports are frequent of parents making improper use of the "baby bonus", the Department of National Health and Public Welfare reports few prosecutions — only 184 in five years, and only a half dozen of these for fraud under the Criminal Code. Up to January of last year, \$10,160 was collected in fines and \$21,806 recovered in over-payments. Non-maintenance of children is the principal cause of prosecutions. "Duplicate accounts" and acceptance of allowances for fictitious or deceased children account for most of the remaining cases.

Milestone On A Long, Weary Road



Selkirk In P. E. Island

From the Diary of Lord Selkirk, 1803

Saturday, Aug. 13th. Having finished all the business with the 'Dykes' and left her ready for sea — and sealed up my letters to go by the Post, I set off for the settlement of the old French village called Belfast. I arrived in the evening, having passed Mr. Stewart on the way over; fatigue in the exploring had made him ill. I went on board the Polly from which everything was landed, but there was still some baggage on board and other things to settle; the ship lying a mile and a half from shore had made the boating tedious.

Several of the passengers had not taken up their full weekly allowance of provisions and had to receive a balance. A week had been distributed per advance and there still remained of the 8 weeks laid in, one due to the store. Some squabbling had arisen about the cooking; no cook being provided by the ship, it was difficult to keep order among so great a number. 280 full passengers and nearly 400 souls — Dr McAulay, Selkirk's agent) managed it at last by appointing cooks from among themselves. The berths seemed fully confined to the abundance of hatches gave a good opportunity of air; yet it had proved very close in hot weather, the berths being dirty enough.

I found the people scattered about along a mile of shore, a few barns, etc., belonging to three unauthorized settlers, the rest in hovels or wigwams, built oblong like the roof of one of our European cottages, and thatched in general with spruce boughs, some of them very close, and fit to turn a good rain — but the fine weather had not yet put them to the test. Mr. Shaw observed, however, that they wanted trenches around them which would be necessary in wet weather. They have been so occupied with landing their luggage that nothing else has been got done; tho' the smith was sent down yesterday he has not yet got to work.

Supped at Dr. McAulay's tent, and went up to lodge in J. McDonald's to which some of my own camp beds had been taken. My own tent had been too cumbersome to bring in the boat — one less complete would have been more useful. The mosquito curtains were mismanaged and enclosed as many within as without so that the night was not the most comfortable.

The encampment had a very picturesque appearance under the night — every tent having a great fire near it illuminated the woods, and each party sitting or moving around with their gipsy-like apparatus of pots and pans gave the light additional variety of play. Sunday, Aug. 14th. From the lateness of the evening I had seen few of the people last night — the most of them met me in the morning about breakfast time, and we had a hearty shaking of hands — they came in general around me with a keenness and warmth that perhaps had a little resemblance to the old feudal times; the zeal with which they assisted at our landing last night put me in mind of Seaforth's reception in Kentail eleven years ago.

Being anxious to explore the country in order for laying out the different lots we proceeded as expeditiously (as possible) by the old French Road or Portage to Pinette River. The first half of the way is through old French cleared land, grown up with small timber of 20 or 30 years' growth — the further part is large timber with a considerable proportion of pine, etc.; this is reckoned good land. In Pinette we embarked in a wooden canoe, leaving the people busy in bringing another across the Portage. Landed with Mr. Wright the surveyor and walked

The Poet's Corner

FROM THE PRINCESS

Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean, Tears from the depth of some divine despair Rise in the heart, and gather to the eyes, In looking on the happy Autumn-fields, And thinking of the days that are no more. Fresh as the first beam glittering on a sail, That brings our friends up from the underworld, Sad as the last which reddens over the eyes. That sinks with all we love below the verge; So sad, so fresh; the days that are no more. Ah, sad and strange as in dark summer dawns The earliest pipe of half-awaken'd birds To dying ears, when unto dying eyes The casement slowly grows a glimmering square; So sad, so strange, the days that are no more. Dear as remember'd kisses after death, And sweet as those by hopeless fancy feign'd On lips that are for others; deep as love, Deep as first love, and wild with all regret; O Death in Life, the days that are no more. —Lord Tennyson.

The Age Old Story

A false balance is an abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom. Riches profit not in the day of wrath; but righteousness delivereth from death. A false balance is an abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom. Riches profit not in the day of wrath; but righteousness delivereth from death. A false balance is an abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom. Riches profit not in the day of wrath; but righteousness delivereth from death.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer THE PARTY AND THE INDIVIDUAL

While chatting with an acquaintance about the prospects of the candidates in a certain riding I happened to remark that I had not yet decided how I shall vote. The man was amazed and at first thought I was joking. When I assured him that I was never more serious I think he put me down as a "crank". Incidentally, that word is used nowadays of so many fine and intelligent persons that it is fast becoming a sobriquet to be coveted.

"Why," he said, "I always know how I am going to vote and I always vote the same way!" There is no use in arguing with a viewpoint like that and I didn't bother to tell the man that he was in the habit of making less than full use of his franchise. I suppose the person who "always votes the same way" is regarded highly by his Party whips. They must be pleased to know what voters in a given constituency they can count on under any and all circumstances for they can then proceed to concentrate their powers of persuasion on the less constant ones. These latter are the people who give trouble to the Party, but I cannot help thinking they are also the people who contribute the most strength to our free institutions. It would seem logical to assume that intellectual independence is just as helpful in the political field as anywhere else.

The franchise is, by common consent, a precious right. Only those who once possessed it and then lost it can realize just how precious it is. It does seem to me that the man who feels that his vote belongs to a certain Party is not doing much, if anything, to preserve the sanctity of the franchise. I would almost go as far as to suggest that, unwittingly no doubt, he is helping to destroy the very freedom that his right to vote is intended to guarantee.

This is not to infer that Party loyalty is in itself a bad thing. Far from it. But the man who would never under any circumstances transfer his support from one Party to another is in danger of Party enslavement, and that cannot be a good thing for either himself or his country. No man can be politically independent who allows Party loyalty to take the place of his own intellectual integrity. And if he is not politically independent he is not free.

In this election, as in all past elections, there will be many former Liberals who will vote Conservative (or something else) and many former Conservatives who will vote Liberal (or something else). And only then, nowadays, is regarded as renegades by their former Party associates. No one can dissuade me from the view that these are the elections who give meaning and life to the franchise.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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