

THE GUARDIAN

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Poppy Sales

Last year five million poppies and 52,000 poppy wreaths in memory of Canada's dead in two World Wars were distributed by the Canadian Legion, B. E. S. L., an increase of half a million individual poppies and 11,000 wreaths over the previous year.

Once more Poppy Day is at hand and the products of "Vetcraft" shops operated by the Department of Veterans' Affairs are being sold by the Legion and its auxiliaries. The proceeds contributed by the public for poppies is spent by local Legion branches for relief of needy ex-servicemen, widows and orphans of deceased veterans, in cases where government assistance for various reasons cannot be given.

By buying and wearing a poppy, we honour the memory of those who died, and ease the lot of survivors.

The Maritime Fair

Whether it be in potatoes, cattle, swine, horses or what have you, Prince Edward Island farm exhibitors are beating all comers at the Maritime Winter Fair, proving once again that this is the agricultural Province par excellence of the Maritimes, and indeed of all Canada.

This year the superiority of our Island entries appears more marked than ever. This is because a greater number of our farmers and breeders are competing and also because we have been concentrating in recent years on quality production all along the line. This campaign, in which our agricultural officials, federal and provincial, have taken a very active part along with our Federation of Agriculture, is paying off in golden dividends.

The successes scored at the Maritime Fair now in progress should stimulate further intensive efforts in this direction. Also it should encourage a larger representation of Island exhibitors at the Royal Winter Fair, on which the eyes of all Canada, agriculturally speaking, will be centred. This is a text which Premier Jones has been preaching from for a long time, and there is no question but that he is right. Our future as well as our past and present prosperity lies in farming, and the best way of ensuring this future is by exploiting every natural advantage which our soil and climate afford. Governor Patterson long ago predicted that this Province could become the Garden of America. He was wrong only in failing to include our magnificent possibilities in livestock production as well.

Speaking Plainly

Speaking as one who is with us but not of us, Premier Smallwood of Newfoundland gave his colleagues of the Maritime Provinces something to think about in his speech at the opening of the Maritime Winter Fair. "In the past eighty years," he said, "if half the energy expended by the leaders of the three Maritime Provinces in trying to persuade Ottawa had been used to stir their own people, fight their own battles and exploit their own resources, these three Provinces would be much further ahead than they are today."

"We in Newfoundland," he added, "are not going to become another Maritime Province in the sense that we spend the first eighty years of union, beefing, complaining and whining about what Ottawa has done to us. We are not going to be made to fit into any pattern but will fight to get ahead and reach the level of prosperity and development of the other three Maritime Provinces."

The Newfoundland Premier did not say what weapons he intended to fight with but as the man chiefly responsible for bringing his Province into Confederation it is not likely that he is considering any threat of secession. Perhaps the key to his strategy for the future may lie in a further statement attributed to him at Amherst. "If the capitalists won't display some of the daring that Canada used to have," he said, "we for our part will go elsewhere for it. Natural resources need capital. Five or six hundred millions could change the entire face of the Maritimes."

casation, called it "yapping". When we have matured to the point of forgetting petty politics and speaking with one voice from these Atlantic Provinces we shall be heard without incurring any such derogatory comments.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Remembrance Week.

Amherst Winter Fair.

Canadians are now in Yokohama, the jumping off port for Korea.

The Islanders are not "doing half-bad" in Amherst or in hockey.

A rise in the cost of living is no news now-a-days. What most of us would like to read is "a rise in the price of potatoes."

The two Toronto young men who have sailed for Cuba in search of hidden wealth may return wiser if not richer than when they set out. The attraction of the unseen, the unexpected, or at least hardly expected, is back of all adventures and gambling from bingo to warfare.

Princess Charlotte Augusta, only child of Prince George of England (George IV) contracted to William of Orange, but married Leopold of Saxe-Coburg. She died after a year of marriage, greatly deplored, leaving no child to inherit her presumptive right to the throne.

The appointment of J. K. McKee, M.L.A. of Buctouche, as county magistrate for Kent is announced. Mr. McKee has resigned his seat as Liberal member for Kent in the Legislature as the appointment is effective Nov. 1.

Mr. Clive Planta, Ottawa, manager of the Fisheries Council of Canada, arrives today to plan with the Provincial Government and P. E. I. Fisheries Federation for the East Coast Fisheries Conference to be held here early next year.

Three sittings of the Legislature is a lot in one year but certainly called for by the late transportation emergency. Nov. 29th would be an excellent time for regular sessions while reports for the year ending March 31st are not yet hopelessly outdated.

Two Island nurses have sailed for Bermuda to join a hospital staff there. Canadians are much in demand on that other Island and the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital is closely linked with Canadian institutions.

It is interesting to learn that Dr. Charlotte Whitton, the well-known welfare worker, speaker and writer, will run for Ottawa Board of Control in the forthcoming Ottawa civic elections Dec. 4. If elected, the 54-year-old lecturer will be the first woman controller in capital city history.

Canadian Press announces that absence of children from school in various parts of N. B. has resulted in 609 suspensions of family allowance payments since last month. So reports Mrs. A. S. Fergusson, director of family allowances for that province.

Montreal will give a warm and sincere welcome to one of Britain's most famous political leaders in the person of the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden when he arrives there tomorrow to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from McGill University at a special Convocation, for few men have made a greater contribution to the course of world affairs than he who became Britain's Foreign Secretary in 1935, at the age of 38, the youngest in 84 years to hold the post.

Six years ago, on November 5, 1944, all dry land on Walcheren Island in the Scheldt Estuary, with the exception of two places, Veers and Middleburg, was reported in allied hands. This brought to an end the Canadian operation to clear the port of Antwerp. These operations began the first week in October when the Canadians began their drive to secure the west bank of the River Scheldt and the advance to the general line Roosendaal-Bergen Op Zoom. After securing the west bank and sealing off the isthmus connecting Zuid Beveland with the mainland to the east, the difficult assaults to capture Zuid Beveland and Walcheren began. In preparation for the assault of Walcheren Island, the dyke at Westkapelle was bombed, allowing the sea to flow in and flood the enemy defences. By the end of October it could be said that for the first time in history an island had been sunk by air power. As a result of this flooding, the enemy garrison had only stomach enough for a week's fighting after the amphibious assaults went in on November 1. Minesweepers were already at work and some three weeks later, November 28, a convoy entered the Port of Antwerp.

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.

WESTERN MAIL SERVICE

Sir,—Owing to the antiquated mail service in Western Prince County, newspapers are greatly handicapped in giving service to readers. It is a fact that the people in this obscure, neglected and forgotten end of Prince County, do not get this morning's issue until 8.30 the following morning.

Summerside and Kensington have today's issue around 10 a. m. while those a short distance further west must wait nearly 24 hours. This is the condition (intolerable of course) that we in the West must endure. The taxpayer has no say in the matter as to when he should get HIS MAIL. It seems that one man at Charlottetown or Ottawa decides the matter and all subsidiary officials must obey.

Who is this autocrat, fed at the taxpayers expense, whose indifference has perpetuated the sordid mail arrangement of Western Prince? The area now resembles the reservation of the poor neglected Indian. One can get mail by air from Toronto as quickly as from Charlottetown to Tignish.

Is there no solution to this problem? We have no member of Parliament or senator who can't be found or seen. Possibly he is air flying at the poor ignorant taxpayers' expense.

I am, Sir, etc. A. L. RENNIE

Elmsdale, P. E. I.

FARMERS' PROBLEMS

Sir,—In a recent letter reference was made to a suggestion that farmers might spread their hog and other livestock production over a greater portion of each twelve month period, and thus gain financially from marketing at least a portion of their production at higher prices, during the customary in-between scarcity season. It was stated, when this innovation was tried a quarter of a century ago, obstacles loomed up, which to many who might otherwise fall in line, proved insurmountable.

In the case of hogs, the change in procedure would involve earlier breeding and mid-winter farrowing, and very few farmers were equipped with animal accommodations for such an experiment. Then again, it involved the consumption of large quantities of feed, which farmers generally did not have, at the time the bulk would be required; and to resort to or depend upon the purchase of commercial feeds, at best, only partially available and at extremely high prices, any advantage to be gained from higher prices at time of marketing would be nullified by the extra cost of the required feeds. The idea back of the proposal was sound and is today, but before such a venture can be successful, provision must be made for the other complementary requirements—suitable animal accommodation and sufficient feed at a cost that will allow a reasonable margin of profit.

There are two sources from, and methods by which producers can provide for their livestock feed requirements—home production, or importation, but it would be folly to expand our livestock production efforts to any great extent and depend solely upon either of these sources alone. They must be complementary to each other. There is such a thing as crop failure at home and abroad, but rarely during the same season.

It would be calumnious were farmers to embark upon a widely expanded program of livestock production and find themselves on occasions heavily loaded down with maturing and coming stock and come face to face with a local crop failure, and with no organized provision at hand for the importation of Western grains. That should never happen. It would be something effective must be done to prevent it. It is true action might be taken to cope with such an emergency, but emergencies of this nature should never be allowed to occur when they are preventable.

Premier Jones is reported as having stated at the opening of the Amherst Winter Fair a few days ago: "Potato and apple growers should remember that seventy per cent of agricultural prosperity comes from livestock," and presumably this estimate coverage takes in his own Province too. Premier Jones on various occasions has stated that it would be having professed similar faith in the livestock industry being the bulwark of our Provincial prosperity, rather than other hazardous adventures that catch up with and strangle our agricultural economy all too frequently.

Hon. C. C. Baker, Minister of Agriculture, is reported to have said at an agricultural meeting at Fredericton, N. B., last September, I believe, that "what was needed in the Maritimes was a livestock feed policy." That was an absolutely correct pronouncement, and to be hoped equally significant of what may be expected from the Minister. A combination of such Ministerial views constitutes a challenge to the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and farmers will be justified in anticipating action along these lines.

I am, Sir, etc. J. A. GILLIES.

The Age-Old Story

Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity.

Fashion Note: A Little Colour Helps



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE

"On the morning of Sunday last Charlottetown was visited by one of those serious calamities so common, of late years, to North American towns, but from which we have been hitherto peculiarly exempt, to any serious extent a destructive fire. The alarm was first given by the sentries at the Province Building, shortly after 5 o'clock, and quickly communicated through the adjacent streets. The flames were seen bursting from the workshop of John Scott, carriage builder, on the north side of Kent Street, and before aid could arrive, had caught a large building also belonging to Mr. Scott, used as a painting house— which stood on the south of the workshop, from which they quickly communicated to the workshop of Mr. James Cairns, smith.

"At this juncture Town Engine No. 1 arrived and was placed in the passage between the house of Mr. John Breen, blacksmith, and Mr. Scott's dwelling house, and commenced playing over the burning building and upon the porch and house of Mr. Cairns, the fire on which was, at that time, completely suppressed; but at this important crisis the water gave out, and the Engine stopped. Engine No. 2 was placed between Mr. Cairns' and John Hobbs' houses, and played with much effect upon the buildings in the rear, but the rapidity of the flames compelled the firemen to retire, and the fire, borne on the wind which had increased to a gale at this time, soon communicated to Mr. Hobbs' cabinet manufactory.

"A consultation took place between the Fire Wardens as to the propriety of pulling down Mr. Hobbs' warehouse, on the corner of the street, to stop the progress of the fire and prevent it crossing Great George Street; but before this could be effected it was enveloped in a mass of flame, which cut off the use of the pump in the street.

"Engine No. 2 took a stand at the east corner of Kent and Great George Streets, and commenced playing on the houses. Ignition took place in several spots, but was providentially kept under. The burning embers were carried as far as the Central Academy (nearly half a mile distant), the roof of which took fire, and had it not been for timely attention, would have proved destructive.

"The Garrison Engine was on the ground, and was placed to the northward, which commanded the fire next to Mr. James Cahill's premises, and prevented its crossing a street in that direction. Just after daylight the wind having calmed away, it was found that the engines which encompassed the scene of destruction being better supplied with water, were able to control the fierce element; the fire-hooks were put to work, and the few remaining timbers of the burnt buildings were leveled. And thus were completely razed to the ground, in the short space of three hours, several of the most useful and handsome buildings in the town.

"The want of water and buckets calls loudly for public interference; for, we feel assured, had there been anything like a continuous and liberal supply of the former article, most of the houses could have been saved. It was a favorable circumstance that the ground was wet, for, had the fire risen in many places where the embers fell, it could not possibly have been arrested until it reached King's Square. Several of the pumps gave out.

"The buildings destroyed were: the dwelling house, workshop warehouse and stable of Mr. John Scott—who was burnt out, on the same spot, four years ago—part of the dwelling house was used by Mr. John LePage, as a school room; Mr. J. W. Cairns (the Globe Inn), his extensive smithy, machine manufactory, warehouse and stables; Mr. John Hobbs—his dwelling house, warehouse, show-rooms, cabinet manufactory; a house, tenanted by Mr. Thomas Jaques, and some out-buildings; Mrs. Hardy—her dwelling house, and a tenanted house in the possession of Mrs. Foyster; Mr. John Breen—a stable burnt, and a tenanted dwelling house much damaged. A small house belonging to Mr. MacKinnon, tenanted,

was on fire on the roof, but not much injured. The loss is estimated at not less than \$3,000. The circumstance most to be regretted in the whole matter, is, that not one penny was insured. —Royal Gazette, Nov. 28, 1848.

The Poet's Corner

EQUINOX

The sheep and lambs are huddled in the pasture. The cattle seek the cow-sheds on the farm. The sky is dark and ominous with thunder— This is the interval before the storm.

Grey geese and sleek-backed ducks scurry for cover Along the banks that edge the curving bay.

Above, the still hawk waits his chosen moment To drop—a feathered plummet—on his prey.

Now the gale breaks . . . Rain is unleashed in torrents. Falling in sheets with heavy hissing sound;

As the wind rises old trees are uprooted. Their trunks and branches crashing to the ground.

So the Fall equinox arrives, unfalling. Obedient to a signal from the skies;

The calendar of nature keeps its promise— As the great rains descend the rivers rise.

—Mary Atwater Taylor.

TEHRAN, Iran, Nov. 3 — (AP)—Premier Ali Razmara announced today Iran and Russia have reached final agreement on a \$20,000,000 barter trade treaty. Details are secret at present. The pact was proposed by Russia as another step to ease tension on her Iranian border, which had heightened since the beginning of the Korean war.

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Notes By The Way

Ottawa issued immediate and heated denials, when the statement was made that 700 members of the Special Brigade had deserted. Then, Ottawa counted those AWL; found that there were 703. — Fort Erie Letter-Review.

The Ottawa Journal, obviously raised in the lap of luxury, writes thus: "Bringing in the bare burner used to be an annual autumn ritual; the heavy ornate stove moved along easily on the peeled maple-sapling rollers. Maple-sapling fiddle sticks! Uncle Nate wrestled it in with his bare hands, and had an octuple hernia to show for it!" — Peterborough Examiner.

Infant mortality and still birth rates in England and Wales for the June quarter of this year were the lowest on record for any second quarter. Statistics just published show that the infant mortality rate was 28 per 1,000 live births, compared with an average of 43 for the second quarter of the 10 years 1940-49. The stillbirth rate was 22.5 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, or 0.4 lower than in the second quarter of 1949. — London Daily Mail.

Not that we're suggesting competition for the fuel companies, but a blaze of pine cones on the family hearth for a sweet woody smell and warm fiery glow is certainly hard to beat. At this time of year the woods are literally full of the dead cones from a variety of pine trees peculiar to this part of the country. Instead of strolling along the cement pavements on a Sunday afternoon, the fireplace owner could turn his steps to the wooded areas of the town and within a short half hour easily fill a bushel basket with this natural resource type of fuel. No one could ever say that a basket of pine cones is a heavy thing to carry home and the roaring fire and brilliant coals make it well worth the effort. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

A colleague draws my attention to a remarkable article in a recent copy of a Hungarian newspaper, "The Dove of Peace," it begins hopefully, "Is spreading its wings over the whole world." But the villain immediately steps on scene. "Its enemies," the writer goes on in the next sentence, "fight under the symbol of the Royal Lion and the Eagle. These creatures, however, 'like their friend the

capitalist Jackal, now dying in agony, are useful to stuff as museum specimens. The same British Lion trembles before the gentle, yet militant Dove, 'The English Socialists want to bar out peace and justice with an Iron Curtain.' But apparently there is no cause for alarm, because the Dove, besides spreading its wings over the world, is 'nestling in the hearts of British workers.'" — London Observer.

Read a typical speech by a diplomat. Its chief characteristic is a kind of muddy capacity that passes for clarity at the white-tie and-tail banquets. Read the editorials in some of our loftier instruments of public opinion. How how cliché tumbles over cliché in a kind of ponderous pattern. And then consider how some of our most important vehicles of public opinion are isolating themselves from the people. I wonder if some of the trouble can't be traced back to the schools. How much attention today is being paid to the teaching of simple clear expository writing? In how many colleges are the English departments paying any but the most superficial attention to this problem of conveying ideas simply and understandably? In fact, how many teachers can write simply and clearly? — Letter in Saturday Review.

A chemist has recently informed the world that, in his opinion, the custom of kissing originated with man's need for salt. When the earliest men discovered that they could get a taste of salt by licking one another's cheeks, the kiss was born. We do not wish to discourage anybody, but we find this theory rather hard to swallow. For one thing, there are many people throughout the world who do not kiss; they rub noses, or express goodwill in some other way. And also, it is certainly not the custom in any circles in which we have ever moved to lick somebody when kissing them; at what period of history does the chemist think that the lick was left out of the kiss? And if a caveman wanted salt, why didn't he lick a piece of salt? It presumes that he must have had access to some supply of salt other than that on the cheeks of his companions; if he had no salt but big natural salt he would not have licked very long. We think that kissing began because it was pleasant. — Peterborough Examiner.

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