

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,765 Retail Trading Zone 3,451 All Others 1,348 Total Net Paid 8,564

Editor and Managing Director, J. M. Surnett Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink" CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, 1951

Everybody's Business

Federal statistics reveal some disturbing facts in connection with education in Canada. They show that of every 100 children who start school, 32 drop out before they even finish their elementary training. That leaves 68 who reach the level of the eighth grade, which is only the first milestone on the road to an education. Only 53 of the 68 start secondary school. More than half drop out and just 22 achieve junior matriculation or equivalent standing.

An appropriate time for the assessment of these and other problems in connection with education will be during the week of March 4-10, which is being observed as Canadian Education Week. The movement was started in 1936 to stimulate public interest in education, and until 1950 was carried on exclusively by the Canadian Teachers' Federation. Then the slogan "Education—Everybody's Business", was translated into action through joint sponsorship by a number of national organizations, including the Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Legion, the Chamber of Commerce and Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.

Niagara River Project

Engineers are again considering a plan to erect a dam across the Niagara River at a point not far to the north of the Peace Bridge. A similar project was proposed fifty years ago, but at that time its purpose was to make the river more navigable; the present plan is recommended in the interest of Niagara power redevelopment.

The advantage of such a dam, say its proponents, is that it would control the river's flow, thereby making possible a more efficient use of the water available to power plants and at the same time ensuring an ample volume to preserve the scenic beauty of the Falls. The Niagara is said to have a basic flow of 200,000 cubic feet of water per second. By the terms of the United States-Canadian treaty a minimum of 100,000 cubic feet of water per second over the Falls is provided for during the daylight hours of the spring, summer and autumn months. For the remainder of the time the minimum is 50,000 cubic feet per second.

If Niagara's basic flow of 200,000 cubic feet per second were constant, American and Canadian power plants along the river would thus have from 100,000 to 150,000 cubic feet of water per second to divide equally. The difficulty is that Niagara's basic flow varies with the weather and seasons; the daytime scenic demands of the cataract mean that power plants down river would receive their largest volume of water during the night hours when their needs are considerably less. Engineers believe that the proposed dam would correct that fluctuation and go far to equalize the basic flow of the river. Lake Erie would, in effect, become a reservoir, but its present levels would not necessarily have to be seriously disturbed. Much of the hard, limestone ledge near the river, and the entrance of the river itself, would have to be removed. A depth of about 21 feet would be required to provide sufficient headwater behind the dam. Its cost is estimated at \$30 millions, a large portion of which would be expended in the dredging for the dam's basin. The project would be an international one.

Aiding The Disabled

A national conference is being held next month in Toronto for the purpose of considering problems concerning the rehabilitation of handicapped persons. Perhaps the most glaring deficiency at present, according to the Ottawa Citizen, is the lack of an integrated plan, plus the division of jurisdictions among national, provincial and

municipal authorities on the one hand, and officials within each of the various governments on the other.

The present rehabilitation program is piecemeal. On the national level the Department of Veterans Affairs deals with disabled veterans, and will also help paraplegic civilians provided they can pay for the service. The Department of National Health and Welfare, through provincial grants-in-aid, such as the annual \$500,000 grant for crippled children, helps the provinces in rehabilitation work. The national Department of Labor helps through the National Employment Service, by trying to find jobs for disabled persons. On the provincial levels, the work of rehabilitating disabled persons is divided between the Education, Labor, Health and Social Welfare departments. Then there is some municipal jurisdiction, especially in social welfare work, and finally a number of voluntary services whose workers help rehabilitate disabled persons are in the field.

What seems needed is a program that will integrate the rehabilitation job. This program should include medical rehabilitation, vocational guidance, vocational training, vocational placement, and the solution of social problems that arise out of disabilities. At its Regina meeting this month, the Canadian Welfare Council suggested that a division of the Department of National Health and Welfare be established to perform the job of integration. It could give grants-in-aid to the provinces, specifying what the grants should be used for, as well as advice and technical help. But since three Federal departments are concerned in the work of rehabilitation, valuable experience might be wasted if this task was turned over to one department alone. An inter-departmental committee might handle the job better, making use of the knowledge gained in the Labor, Veterans, and Health and Welfare departments. But some sort of program should be worked out if many of the 140,000 persons now disabled, and the 24,000 who become disabled each year, are not to be neglected.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Waste paper may not now be exported to the United States or elsewhere without a permit.

Discussion of plans for the annual meeting of members of the Council of Maritime Dental Associations, to be held next June in Charlottetown, highlighted a council session of the New Brunswick association in Saint John over the week-end.

"What are statutory riddles?" asks a correspondent. They are the mesh riddles imposed by the British Potato Marketing Board for regulating the output of potatoes of the right dimensions.

Stealing the ration is something new in crime in England. In Welling, thieves on Saturday deprived everyone in that little village of their last week-end joint before the new meat ration cut became effective next day. They broke into the butcher's shop and made off with 15 whole lamb carcasses and 360 pounds of tinned meat.

Ben Jonson, English dramatist and poet, born this date 1573. "The Alchemist", published in 1601, is his masterpiece; Sir Epicure Mammon is a gem of character portrayal—the situations are good, the story absolutely coherent, the minor parts worked out admirably. After the production of this his works grew inferior in quality. Of his songs, "Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes" is still popular.

An early morning fire, such as that in Water Street yesterday, calls for arduous work on the part of our volunteer firemen. The manner in which they discharged their hazardous duty was most praiseworthy and calls for the highest commendation. The City Council should have no hesitation in complying with their request for additional equipment. It should be borne in mind that had there not been a dance on Monday night which lasted into the early morning, the probability is the outbreak would not have been discovered in time to alarm the occupants.

Eight years ago, on January 31, 1943, the German 6th Army surrendered the beleaguered city of Stalingrad to the Russians after many weeks of bitter fighting under almost impossible conditions. A few days later, on February 2nd, the historic 162-day siege ended. It was on February 2, too, that the second detachment of Canadian troops landed in North Africa, hot on the heels of the first such detachment which had gone in less than a month before. On February 6, 1943, General Eisenhower was appointed Allied Supreme Commander, Africa and the Mediterranean Theatre. Although it was not fully realized then, the clouds were beginning to break.

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.

THE WORLD'S GETTING WORSE, IS IT?

Sir, — I have been hearing this pessimistic cry again of late. "The boys are not respectful than they were in my day. Now, they call their parents the old man and the old woman." "The girls are less modest. They even have the toes of their shoes chopped off so the boys can admire their painted toenails." And these people sigh for the good old days when a man knew what he was drinking. Then again, wars were more humane. Soldiers fought with soldiers. Now they are ruthless. No one escapes. Even the cradled infant gets less milk. On the face of conditions as they are today, the world does seem to be progressing backward.

But we must take the long look. As late as the 10th century in Britain a slave could be bought for a linen shirt, and white slaves were the largest class. By 1838 slavery had disappeared from the British Empire, in spite of strong protests from the church, based on scripture. The common people kept up the struggle for a wider freedom, and in 1789 the bloody French revolution swept feudalism from Europe, and vassals got their land.

Now, in our day, the struggle is for economic freedom. Capitalism, which is identical with Communism in its material basis and its denial of God, is taking the rap of history. Throughout, it has been the urge of the rank and file for a wider freedom, and always opposed by the people in power.

It used to be believed that the principle of evolution carried within it the power of inevitable progress, but scientists now, no longer believe this. However, there is a power beyond the material that, in spite of the ups and downs of history, is making for progress toward a better world. A personal faith in this power, above, can convince a man, even in his worst experience, that the world is, indeed, getting better, and for him the signs of progress multiply.

I am, Sir, etc., W. I. GREEN Stanley Bridge.

The Poet's Corner

EACH DAY IS NEW

In looking back there were a host of things that worried me, But those I thought about the most— Like bombing of our Western coast, Of which I was too much engrossed— Just never came to be.

So now I do not fear at all Or even speculate About the things which may befall; Anticipations that appal, Or even petty hurts that gall And soon exasperate.

I take each day as new and clean, Like freshly fallen snow, Then try my best to be serene While following each hour's routine.

For lovely things can still be seen, And heard and felt I know, The sun comes up each single day, The roses bud and bloom, Birds warble in their happy way And even humble mantes pray So why should I do less than they And steep each day in gloom?

—Laura M. Tennyson, (formerly Miss Laura Mitchell, of Charlottetown) Alhambra, California.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY

"A public meeting was held in the Temperance Hall on the 8th inst., to take into consideration the expediency of organizing a Total Abstinence Society, unconnected with the Order of the Sons of Temperance. Several persons addressed the meeting in favour of the movement—pointing out in what respect the efforts of the Sons of Temperance had fallen short of their desires in the spread of Temperance principles, and the necessity of forming a Society having for its sole object the support and advancement of Total Abstinence—and urging its claims on the attention of the public. A committee was appointed to carry out the intentions of the meeting, by whom a number of resolutions were drawn up and agreed to. The following persons were appointed office bearers: John Lawson, Esq., President; Capt. Orlebar, R. N., and George Beer, Esq., Vice Presidents; George Moore, Secretary and Treasurer; Committee, Messrs. McAusland, John Rider, Samuel Westcott, Thomas Williams and William McKay. As arrangements have been made to procure lecturers for the season, it is confidently hoped that the meetings of the Society will be sufficiently interesting, to ensure the cordial cooperation of the community at large." —Hazard's Gazette, Dec. 17, 1853.

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A Farmer's Creed

By G. P. Martin in The Spectator

Here is another practical farmer who has decided that he is on the side of the ancients when it comes to making farming pay. Although Mr. George Henderson states that this book has been written not only as a companion to his earlier work, "The Farming Ladder," but to advise others in the future, it is much more than a collection of warnings and pieces of advice to those about to farm. Nor is it a mere chronicle of the achievements of a self-made man, redeemed by the obvious sincerity and sense of dedication of the author; it is a convincing vindication of farming methods known and practised by our grandfathers and long held in disrepute by the scientists and "moderns."

In writing of the three facets of farming, as an art, a craft and a business, he comes down to earth in no uncertain fashion, avoiding all sentimentality and pointing the way for the future development of agriculture in this country by testing the discoveries of agricultural scientists with the traditional craftsmanship of our farming forefathers. He says that "it never seems to be realized that the scientist can make no allowance for what he does not know, and that it is the cautious practical farmer who saves the industry from the colossal blunders which would otherwise be made. In this he is right; as many practical farmers, especially the successful ones, will agree.

Although his corn is harvested in the usual way, he keeps a stall in the barn and uses it on the threshing floor to get hatching straw from six-foot sheaves. That is the kind of wisdom which has helped to carry him through the slumps of the past quarter of a century and change his farm from a derelict to a show-piece. It is one with his farming philosophy which he has acquired entirely from his contact with natural things and with those who have spent their lives in natural, yet far from humdrum surroundings, and activities. This springs in the main from his firmly-held faith in the principle that farmers "should leave the land for which they are responsible, far better than they found it," and from his love for the land, a love that is deep indeed and which has brought him more happiness in return than the majority of men can hope to know.

In these days of the frenzied search for the "efficient farming unit," which it is fiercely advocated by agricultural economists, can only be one of broad acres farm-

The Age-Old Story

Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise, when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me... who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities, and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

ed in the manner of the prairie and the ranch, it is a joy to find someone who is ready to quote his experience in support of the small mixed farm—worked by family labour of the owner—as by far the most productive of all kinds of farms. Added to this "heresy" is another in which Mr. Henderson demolishes the theory that artificial fertilizers are all that is necessary for an ever-increasing agricultural production. He says simply that, although he once doubted those old farmers who, in his youth, told him that "there is nothing like muck," he has now long known them to be right, and that highest production is obtained by the use of organic and artificial manures together in the proper proportions. And to this end he is convinced that the four families of farm livestock, fed almost entirely on home-grown fodder and grazed in the traditional order, must be kept on every farm; there is no place in his pattern for "specialized farming."

Whether all will agree with his intense dislike and distrust of the Agricultural Committees, the Advisory Service and all agricultural colleges is a question; but many working farmers will be with him in his demand that officialdom shall leave them alone. The author is now travelled and well-read. It is a pity that he had not more time in early life for relaxation, for this might have softened his sense of superiority over other men. The ancients always made room in their farming for the play of pipe and labor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 — (AP) — The Federal Reserve Board said today this month's industrial production will hit the highest point since the end of the Second World War. It estimated the increase as a gain of one-tenth since the Korean war's start and one-fifth above a year ago.

Notes By The Way

The United States cannot look upon Korea in precisely the same light as do Europeans. For one thing, its military and political commitment is greater. For another, lying between the Atlantic and the Pacific, it must watch the shores of both oceans and weigh the consequences of any sign of weakness in either area. For a third, it bears the heavy responsibilities which its economic and military power entail. It cannot simply acquiesce—it must take its own position. The problem is to reconcile that position with the legitimate interests of America's allies, without jeopardizing either the men who are fighting in Korea or the basic needs of the free world.—New York Herald Tribune.

Lord Harewood has announced that he is reluctantly compelled to sell Goldborough Hall. This was the first home of the Princess Royal after her marriage to the late Lord Harewood, and the present earl and his brother spent their boyhood there. The sale of the hall and its surrounding 1,900 acres is made necessary by death duties. The agent's letter to the Goldborough tenants announcing the sale states: "Lord Harewood is anxious that I should let you know of the trustees' proposals at once and tell you that he will feel the severance of his family with the estate". In June 1950, 8,600 acres of the Harewood estate were sold by auction and realized 257,000 pounds. In November Lord Harewood announced that 6,000 acres in the West Riding of Yorkshire would be sold to raise an outstanding balance of death duties. It was stated at the time that this would reduce the estate to about 1,000 acres. — London Times.

Although there are many women whose financial circumstances are able to take them from the drudgery of housework, there are even more women who spend day after day right in their homes in a constant state of doing dishes, getting meals, washing windows, picking up after the children, getting the laundry ready, dusting, and a myriad other household chores known only to the housewife herself. It isn't the fact that they can turn on the radio and listen to a few dramatic stories, whose characters face problems much worse than their own, many of these women would probably go mental from the monotony of their work. In spite of what those who condemn them claim, these radio "operas" form a definite rest period in the day of the busy housewife, although many of them continue with their work while listening with one ear. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Reams have been written about garden plants. From sunflowers to violets they've had their praises sung, their pictures painted and their blossoms picked. Even moss comes in for attention, and alpine plants have fought their way off the rock pile into the choicest corners of the landscape. But who ever gets lyrical about grass? It is because lawn grass is only the background for the rest of the show? Is it because it's so common it rates no admiration? Let's face a startling truth! It's a fact that grass is the John Smith of the plant world. The Sack of the front yard display. Lawn grass is us. It's the sad-looking goofs

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