

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 FRIDAY, AUG. 28, 1953

Selection Not Censorship

The Canadian Library Association is as interested as any group in improving the reading habits of Canadians and young Canadians in particular. When that body, therefore, speaks out against the imposition of censorship on books and even on comic books their arguments warrant careful consideration. They do not criticize the present provisions of the Criminal Code which provide for the punishment of persons distributing obscene literature. They do, however, object to the imposition of censorship, which, of course, implies the appointment of censors with authority to decide what shall or shall not be published.

The objection is a vital one to the objective of a mature and flourishing literature. Well meaning persons, seeing the lurid covers of many of the cheap publications, are apt to agree precipitately that censorship should be applied. It should not be forgotten that we already have laws and courts which are designed to prevent the abuse of liberty as well as to protect the subject in his proper exercise of his rights.

In this Province the present law has proved adequate to meet the situation. Action by the Attorney-General in stating what publications he considered violated the Criminal Code resulted in their being withdrawn from sale without the necessity of prosecutions. That is a very different thing, however, from anyone having the authority to "ban" publications. He merely expresses an opinion and anyone who thinks he is wrong and acts accordingly must answer, not to the Attorney-General, but to the Courts.

No Pie In The Sky

The Country Guide, a western farm journal, draws a timely distinction between justifiable Government measures designed to stabilize the country's economy, or to prepare in advance for emergencies or unexpected catastrophes, and to the loose and muddled thinking which perpetuates the idea that governments can draw on a supposedly inexhaustible fund in support of idealistic but impractical ideas. In the process of changing our attitude toward the functions of government, we have developed a growing fondness for what is now called "the welfare state."

It was not magic or financial legerdemain that made possible the extension of social benefits in Canada during the last thirty years. These have resulted from a fortunate combination of increased population, increased productivity, and increased knowledge of the techniques of transferring wealth from the most favored to the least favored groups, without damage to the economy.

"Most farmers," says our western contemporary, "belong to one or more co-operative organizations. Governments in some respects are not unlike co-operatives, which exist usefully when they enable a group of persons to achieve, together, something of which they all approve, but which they could not achieve as individuals. Their justification is a readily discernible need, their growth and achievement depend primarily upon the education and loyalty of their members. They operate on the principle of 'one man, one vote,' and benefits are derived generally in proportion to the energy and understanding of their members. All of this is more or less true of governments, the benefits from which are secured in very much the same way."

Investment In Canada

The economists of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics have been compelled to revise upward their earlier estimates of investment in Canada for the current year. Capital expenditures, by governments and by private enterprisers, are now expected to reach \$5,564 millions by the year's end, or 3 per cent more than the original forecast. They will break all records and exceed the investment of last year by 9 per cent.

"The upward revision from the earlier estimates for 1953", the Bureau reports, "occurred chiefly in the machinery and equipment category, probably reflecting the tooling-up of new plants; it re-emphasizes the strength of capital spending, particularly in mining, housing and in the trade and finance groups. . . . The manufacturing group, which had originally planned ex-

penditures at a reduced rate, has revised its investment plans upward, and now anticipates spending slightly more than in 1952. Overall changes from the original estimates for 1953 result partly from the initiation of new projects upon which information was not available at the earlier date, and partly because better estimates can be made as work has advanced on a number of projects."

Exactly how much the Canadian people will save this year it is impossible to say in advance but the Bureau of Statistics has lately measured the savings made last year. It says: "Gross national saving, which in addition to personal saving, includes undistributed corporation profits, depreciation allowances and the consolidated government surplus, dropped to \$4,461 millions in 1952 from \$4,941 millions in 1951, as a large decline took place in the consolidated surplus of municipal, provincial and federal governments."

That is to say, there was little saving through the budgets of the nation, the provinces and the municipalities. The period of large Federal Government revenue surpluses passed in the last fiscal year when the Federal surplus was only \$24 millions. And in the current year, as Mr. Abbott says, there may be a deficit to set against the private savings of the people.

Though total savings last year were somewhat below those of 1951, they were still large. The Canadian people were setting aside, instead of spending it on consumer goods, about a fifth of their total production of goods and services. It was by this means mainly that they financed a huge capital expansion which continues, at an even higher rate, in the current year. It seems unlikely that any nation in the world, on a basis of comparable population, will exceed or even equal Canada's present rate of investment.

Pigs By Plane

Pigs are the latest air passengers to be given the very best in travel comforts in the United Kingdom. When eighty-four pigs were air-lifted across the North Sea last week they were the first to use an entirely new system of aerial pig pens. The new pens, approved by the National Pig Breeders' Association, are designed to give each porker a room in the air of his own. The first load of pigs—twenty-eight at a time—arrived at Cambridge airport in a specially adapted Bristol Freighter aircraft. In the front section of the cargo hold were eight large pens for pigs weighing over 300 lbs., and behind them were twenty pens for slightly smaller pigs. The animals averaged 272 lbs. each. A member of the crew acted as flying swineherd. Each pen was covered with strong netting to prevent adventurous pigs peering out.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The 25 per cent increase in Income Tax collections in this Province from 1951 to 1952-53 is not, itself, anything to cheer about but the increased income which it represents is very satisfactory indeed.

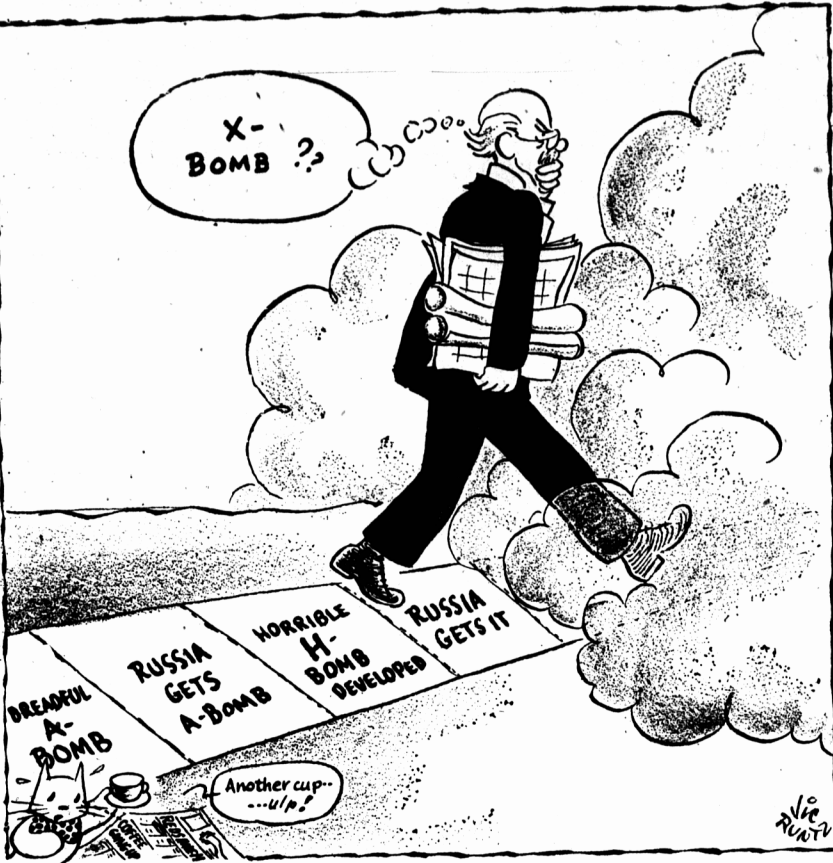
Congratulations are in order for Inspector W. H. C. Nevin on being appointed an aide-de-camp to His Excellency the Governor-General. Previously one R. C. M. P. officer was customarily so honoured. The appointment of ten emphasizes the military aspect of the force and its national character.

The Union of South Africa has a separate capital for each of its three branches of government, notes the National Geographic Society. Pretoria is the administrative capital and residence of the Governor-General. Cape Town is the seat of the legislature, while Bloemfontein is the headquarters of the national judiciary.

The three new scholarships being made available by the I. O. D. E. as a memorial to service in the Second World War are for post graduate work in the humanities—specifically history, philosophy, French or English literature. Today, when the study of science is receiving every support, it is well thought indeed to give encouragement to the appreciation of values.

Leigh Hunt, English author, died this date 1859. He wrote, and his father published, a volume of poems before he was sixteen and he always strove to make his mark as a poet. It is as an essayist, however, that he was most successful. He was a friend and later an enemy of Byron. He continuously worked hard contributing to newspapers, editing periodicals, writing dramatic criticism and book-reviews, and every now and then issuing a book. "The Town" is perhaps the most delightful of his works, although his "Autobiography" is deservedly the most popular.

How Far Is There To Go?



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.

GRAMMAR AND LITERATURE

Sir,—Education is ever opening up new vistas. Let us hope this one may be a surprising revelation to the few grammarians who are unyielding formalists. In "A Former Teacher's" interesting letter of August 22nd in The Guardian the remarks that the question of better English is creating lively discussion "perhaps in every Canadian Province". That is so, and not only in Canada but markedly in the United States. Even in England, the staid mother of our language, a movement in this direction is awakening. There are also appearing important revisions such as that which has been made mostly of etymology.

A startling statement attributed to Stanley E. Read, professor of English at the University of British Columbia, is going the rounds of the press. He maintains "that 65 per cent of high school graduates who go to university cannot read, write or think properly. Yet never before were so many grammatical niceties taught in the schools and the colleges. Could it be that a surfeit of grammatical refining makes the high school student yawn and "think of naught but dining" while the teacher keeps on defining?"

One may find herein a solution to the problem. As a science advances it becomes less understandable to everyone except a small number of that particular science. There is a trend toward specialization in yet smaller entities. Scientific research is riding in a coach "drawn by little atoms". This was succinctly expressed by one of the Mayors brothers when he said "Science is learning more about the less".

You have only to examine that Government chart, that insurance policy or any legal document, to see what the effort to get the exact shape and sense of things can do to a language. You know its not a sport page you're reading because in that case everything would be "terrific" and all superlatives would be "stupendous". In the long run you go to a lawyer to find out what it is all about. Well, a similar situation would prevail in literary language if our analytical grammarians had their sweet "any-so". Give them the pilot's seat, where would they land us? Not at a banquet of the immortals in creative art; and surely when we spend a quiet night at home we need something better than a tete-a-tete with a text-book.

The truth of the matter is that Shakespeare and all the literary elite before him were blissfully ignorant of many grammatical rules. For instance they would not have known a gerund from the picture of a Japanese geisha girl trying to box the ears of the man in the moon for being a naughty boy. This is the point of the problem where clear thinking demands that there should be made a distinction between science and art. Grammar is science, literature is an art. The making of a literature that will live may be nine-tenths drudgery, none the less it is an affair of inspiration, of the soul being stirred with poetry, music, drama and song; it is art illumined by the God-given light that comes from the human heart. In grammar there is a betwixt medium between not doing at all and overdoing. Perhaps we need awake to the fact that we are nurturing in our educational bosom a would-be literary Pharisaeism.

The history of Pharisaeism should put us on our guard against overdoing it in so far as formalism is concerned. In their early days the Pharisees were esteemed for their high ideals, great courage,

Encouragement of Talent

(Globe and Mail)

The place of the bright child in clever children in classes arouses the common school system is a problem of the first magnitude. A very among the segregated pupils. The organization of the school system and various other technical obstructions, not to overlook examinations, also hinder progress. Scholastic excellence of itself does not, of course, guarantee a later life of socially valuable leadership. But the odds are more favorable to an elite of intelligence and ability than the lottery chances of the uneducated to reach the top. In a world of increasing complexity and infinitely graver weight of responsibility, we need the most highly developed leadership it is possible to obtain. We have been so bemused by the delusion that all men were created equal that the facts of reality have been disregarded. There is no place where mediocrity can safely be allowed authority—in government, education, the professions or in industry and commerce. The world is crying for adequate leadership.

How is it to be provided? One solution would be a multiple school system with parallel streams branching out from the foundation classes of elementary learning. The cost of such a system would undoubtedly be much greater than the present type of general schools. There could be no question but that the investment would be worth it. In the present state of over-taxation, it is unlikely it could be put into effect. Another solution, even more drastic, would be to abandon the effort to give every child a maximum education and revert to the older system of educating only those adolescents who wished to be taught, or were capable of the effort. This proposal would be scarcely more popular than the former. The world needs gifted people and it is treason against mankind to stifle any talent which may appear. No price should be too great to prevent that.

It would appear that there is a great wastage of talent and a smothering of potential capacity for leadership in educational programs designed to meet the needs of those of average ability. Rigid grades, age groups, segregated learning capacity and the various other elements of a systematized school structure would appear necessary if the whole scheme is to work at all. The bright child is handicapped by all the machinery. It is claimed that only the exceptional surmount the system and go on to the relative freedom of higher education with their capacities undiminished. There have been many experiments, apart from "enrichment" of the course of study, designed to meet the problem of the clever child. When they were conducted within the general school system, numerous practical difficulties have appeared. The grouping of

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

UNION BANK MEETING

"A general meeting of the stockholders of the contemplated Union Bank of Prince Edward Island took place, pursuant to advertisement, at the Colonial Building on Thursday last, the 11th inst. The meeting was largely attended and both by Town and country stockholders. A series of carefully prepared by-laws, rules and regulations for the management of the affairs of the Corporation were passed, and the meeting proceeded to the election, by ballot, of a Board of Directors who will hold office until the regular annual meeting takes place in the first Tuesday in April next. A call of 35 per cent on the subscribed stock was ordered to be made.

"The following gentlemen were and moral dignity. Their main function was teaching and preaching. They taught in the child-rearing schools; they established higher institutions from which trained missionaries went forth to work among heathen tribes. By their teaching and preaching they helped to make ready the national mind and will for the introduction of Christianity.

Unfortunately an undue regard for the letter of the Law soon killed its spirit, and their once moral greatness deteriorated. They destroyed their good works and finally co-operating with the Herodians they became Christ's greatest enemy. All was lost to them because they placed their trust in the utility of an exaggerated formalism. As recorded by Matthew the Evangelist it is awful to contemplate Christ's arraignment of the scribes and Pharisees. I am, Sir, etc. Minor Saxon.

The Poet's Corner

THE COW IN APPLE-TIME

Something inspire the only cow of late To make no more of a wall than an open gate, And think no more of wall-builders than fools. Her face is flecked with pomice and she drools. A cider syrup. Having tasted fruit, She scorns a pasture withering to the root. She runs from tree to tree where lie and sweeten. The windfalls spiked with stubble and worm-eaten. She leaves them bitten when she has to fly. She bellows on a knoll against the sky. Her udder shrivels and the milk goes dry. —Robert Frost.

The Age Old Story

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Notes By The Way

Although harness races owe their survival to the honey atmosphere of the country fall fair, where they still flourish, they have come to enjoy a much wider popularity. There is nothing surprising in this, as the sport is one of the most exciting contests imaginable, and one of the most exacting. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

A British author, Ernest Watkins, after a brief visit to Canada, has come to the conclusion that this country will carry "the torch lit by Europe" farther than any other country. He means the cultural and spiritual torch and to hear this from an outsider is mighty encouraging. —Vancouver Sun.

A linguist's agility is characteristic of natural scientists who switch from language to language in their daily work and think nothing of it. It recalls a remark made by a famous astronomer who was taken aback because he could not read Russian scientific papers. "What," he asked, "is a poor astronomer to do when he can only speak English, French, Spanish, Italian, German and Dutch?" —Christian Science Monitor.

We have often expressed the opinion before that there is an element in the student—or prospective student-body that is not known for academic brilliance. They are not in the scholarship winning category, but they are good students in that their efforts are sincere. Some of these people—both men and women—may be getting by financially through doing odd jobs and baby sitting. But many average high school graduates have to forego university training because they have no money and cannot win scholarships. —Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

No longer need women chain themselves to fences and throw themselves under galloping race-horses to prove that they, too, have rights. A sensible action on women's rights appears to have been taken by the Associated Country Women of the World, in session at Toronto, when this organization rejected a motion that it should work for "economic equality for women to complete their citizenship." The rejection was not because they were not prepared to explore "the infinite implications" of the suggestion at present. —Ottawa Journal.

A rather alarming view of the astronomical future is presented by Dr. Albert G. Wilson of the Mount Palomar observatory in California. In addition to speculating on the possibility of the earth crashing into an asteroid in the wrong traffic lane—he estimates this may happen once every 2,000,000 years or so—Dr. Wilson has grave doubts as to the permanence of the moon. He calculates that in the course of time it will draw closer and closer to the earth, until finally the gravity of our planet disintegrates it, and the fragments shower down upon our heads. Fortunately, the catastrophe is not exactly what one would call imminent; it is scheduled for about 100,000,000 years from now. Also, some astronomers believe that long before 100,000,000,000 A. D. the sun will explode, and any subsequent misbehaviour by the moon will be purely academic. —Edmonton Journal.

The people of Greenland, a Danish colony, voted today for the first time in their history. About 9,000 voters are to pick two members of Denmark's first unicameral Parliament, provided for in the new Constitution adopted last May. Seven out of eight candidates are native Greenlanders. The eighth is a Danish woman doctor. Because of the long distances and slow communications, it may be a week before all returns are in. General elections for the new Parliament are to take place in Denmark next month. —Associated Press.

A man who had been spending some time in the country dropped in; his office for a couple of hours the other day and thereby cheered up a great many people throughout the world. The man was Winston Churchill, and his office is located at Downing Street, London. That Sir Winston should make news merely by going to the office reflects, of course, the universal concern that has been felt for him during his recent illness. It also reflects the eagerness with which people far beyond the borders of his own country look to him for guidance and leadership. —New York Herald Tribune.

The Kinsey report on the sex habits of American women is based on interviews by the Kinsey investigators with some 5,940 of them. Considering the relative population of these two countries an equally "scientific" and authoritative report on Canada could be established on interviews with 500 women, a mixed bag of those willing to talk with a stranger on these matters of extreme intimacy. And who in his right mind would maintain that what these 500 would report, which might or might not be true even of the five hundred, would be true of the other millions of their sex? —Ottawa Journal.

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NOTICE RE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. P. W. Barlow, Motor Vehicle License Examiner, will be available by appointment for the purpose of giving Motor Vehicle driving examinations, at the places and times indicated below.

SOURIS—August 31st to September 1st, inclusive—Star Grocery Building.

MONTAGUE—September 2nd to September 4th, inclusive—Masonic Building.

CHARLOTTETOWN—September 8th to September 11th, inclusive—Motor Vehicle Registration Office.

SUMMERSIDE—September 14th to September 18th, inclusive—Sheriff's Office.

CHARLOTTETOWN—September 21st to September 25th, inclusive—Motor Vehicle Registration Office.

SOURIS—September 28th—Star Grocery Building.

MONTAGUE—September 29th to September 30th, inclusive—Masonic Building.

SUMMERSIDE—October 1st and October 2nd, inclusive—Sheriff's Office.

J. A. GALLANT, Registrar of Motor Vehicles.