

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, JAN. 12, 1954

The Right Approach

It takes many years for a tree to attain maturity and when it does so it is a very valuable asset to a community, as any treeless town or city can testify. Uninterrupted telephone communication and power are also extremely important. It is, therefore, matter for congratulation that the provincially regulated utilities, the city and the Provincial Government will be working closely together in a programme to remove the hazard to wires and at the same time to preserve the city's shade trees.

The newly-appointed City Tree Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. F. Connolly will have the assistance of Mr. J. Frank Gaudet, Chief Forester of the Provincial Government and a membership representative of all the interests involved. Such an authority is far more desirable than either giving the utilities blanket authority to remove any trees they may think necessary or on the other hand opposing any attempt to remove trees no matter what danger they might involve to property.

The committee has no authority to order that trees on private property be trimmed or removed but property-holders would be wise to accept their recommendations which certainly will be based on a careful consideration of the requirements of safety and of possible alternatives. There are, in addition, other ways in which unreasonable property holders can be prevented from endangering life and property.

The main thing is that all the city's interests have been provided proper safeguards and a necessary job can be proceeded with without unnecessary destruction.

Crown And Subject

In the course of an otherwise admirable discussion of the position of the Queen, the Ottawa Journal advances the theoretical possibility that the Queen could be challenged at the border and unable to claim the privilege of entry to this country which is granted to Canadian citizens. It is quite true, of course, that Her Majesty is not a Canadian citizen. Nor is she a British subject as are Canadians.

She is Queen of Canada, a status which will certainly assure Her Majesty of passage by any of her Canadian immigration officers. The proposal that other members of the Royal Family be made Canadian citizens has much more to commend it. Like the rest of us they are subjects of Her Majesty and it might indeed be appropriate that they be granted Canadian citizenship.

The matter, however, is not without difficulty. Ottawa might feel some embarrassment at the granting of titles of honour to even such distinguished Canadian citizens. It would be a sorry day if the Prime Minister of this country felt it desirable to advise against making a Canadian citizen Prince of Wales.

The present situation has not resulted in any insuperable difficulties and it might be well to leave things as they stand. Prince Charles is heir-apparent to our Queen and that should be status enough.

A Costly Epidemic

The Ottawa Citizen notes that with the sale of eight million pounds of frozen beef to Britain, the Canadian government gets rid of the last of the beef surplus dropped into its lap as a result of the foot and mouth outbreak in Saskatchewan nearly two years ago. It is still left with about 20 million pounds of pork to dispose of.

When the United States boundary was suddenly closed to shipments of Canadian livestock and livestock products, Ottawa adopted special emergency measures. Under a support price program, a government agency acquired 83 million pounds of beef at 45 cents a pound and 98 million pounds of pork at about 59 cents. The beef was frozen and placed in storage, and 70 million pounds of it were sold to Britain under an ingenious deal involving the substitution of New Zealand beef for Canadian on the American market, and the substitution of higher quality Canadian beef for the New Zealand product in Britain. Considerable monetary losses resulted, as was expected from the first, but the full extent of these are still not known. The latest sale, whereby Canada gets rid of the last of the ac-

cumulated beef, is being made at about a third of cost, for the reported figure of roughly 15 cents a pound is in line with prices Britain would be paying for New Zealand beef.

When the entire government transactions in meat are wound up, it may be found that the bill for the 1952 foot and mouth epidemic, will run close to \$60 million. While this bill to the taxpayers will be partly offset by lower prices to Canadian consumers, it is a staggering sum. Yet it is doubtful whether the nation could have escaped much more cheaply, in view of the threat to the livestock industry and the economy as a whole.

City Of Distinction

Raleigh, North Carolina, a city of 65,000, deserves some sort of national—or, better still, international—award. During 1953 not a single traffic fatality occurred within its limits. This is a very unusual achievement and it did not happen just by chance. It was the result of three years of an intensive safety campaign, inaugurated by civic authorities and supported by churches, schools, newspapers, service clubs, and all other civic groups. It must have taken a good deal of painstaking effort and patience to bring it about but it was worth it all.

In this Province the pre-Christmas warning issued by the Attorney-General's Department was most commendable, it is to be hoped that it was the beginning of a concerted effort which will retain its initial appeal all through the year. The trouble with many safety campaigns is that they are allowed to fizzle out before they have had time to catch the public imagination and to build up the strength necessary for survival. Highway and street safety is possible, as the citizens of Raleigh have demonstrated, but only when it is accorded a high place among matters of urgent public interest. It is even important enough to warrant the setting up of a national foundation from which annual awards would be granted municipalities or other civic areas having good records in this respect.

EDITORIAL NOTES

As parliament assembles to begin its year's work after the holiday an early item of business is housing, a matter that is also first in importance to a great many Canadian families.

West Germany has built considerably more housing units than Britain since 1945, in part because bomb damage was more extensive but perhaps too because that country does not have to assume any responsibilities outside its own borders.

Canada's progress has been "astounding" in the opinion of Henry Ford II, president of the Ford Motor Company. From the head of a company that has long been astonishing the appraisal is cause for congratulation although certainly not for complacency.

Summerside will soon rejoice in a clear modern business district when telephone and power lines are removed from Water Street. In addition to improved appearance there will be an important advantage in safety in the handling of fire fighting equipment.

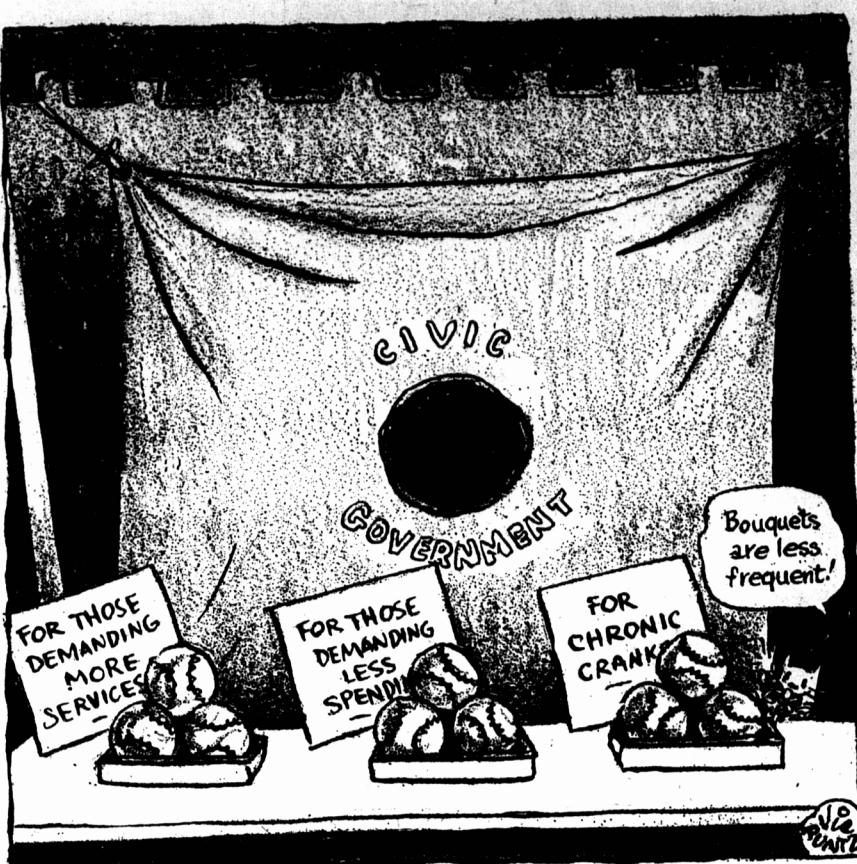
H. M. C. S. Ontario sails from Esquimalt Tuesday to take part in the welcome of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to Hobart, Tasmania. The 10,000-ton cruiser will visit other Australian and New Zealand ports in the course of an extended cruise.

No one has claimed the Russian-built MiG-15 which Far Eastern U. N. forces offered to return to its "rightful owner". It is understandable that Russia would not be anxious to acknowledge ownership but it can only be presumed that North Korea or Red China do not feel any confidence in their title to the aircraft if any.

According to a survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics Toronto led all police departments by handing out 544 parking tickets for every 1,000 motorists using that city's streets. Charlottetown was at the opposite end of the list with no parking tickets. The figures are for 1952, however, and since then quite a few motorists have had cause to regret violating parking regulations.

Sir John Robert Seeley, English historian, died this date 1895. He was a classical master and later professor of Latin at University College, London. He succeeded Charles Kingsley as professor of modern history at Cambridge. His study of history was based rather upon the state and its policies than upon the acts of individuals. His works include "The Life and Times of Stein", the controversial "Ecco Homo", and "Lectures on Political Science".

Openings Soon Available



The Poet's Corner

THE FIRST SNOW

Along the horizon's faded shrunken lines, Velling the gloomy borders of the night, Hung the great snow clouds washed with pallid gold; And stealing from his covert in the pines, The wind, encouraged to a stinging flight, Dropped in the hollow conquered by the cold.

Then a light cloud rose up for hardhood, Trailing a veil of snow that whirled and broke, Blown softly like a shroud of steam or smoke, Sallied across a knoll where map-charged over broken country for a rood.

Then seeing the night, withdrew his force and fled, Leaving the ground with snow-flakes thinly spread, And traces of the skirmish in the wood.

The stars sprang out and flashed serenely near, The solid frost came down with might and main, It set the rivers under bolt and bar; Bang! went the starting eaves beneath the strain, And e'er Orion saw the morning-star The winter was the master of the year.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

NEWSPAPER ITEMS

From The Examiner, Aug. 22, 1888: At the last meeting of the City Council there were some seven or eight applications read from persons who consider themselves qualified to discharge the duties of a policeman. Each applicant was, of course, highly recommended. Some people signed more than one of the testimonials; but then some people would sign their own death warrants if they were asked. This petition-signing business is about worked to death, and the sooner it is abolished the better.

The approaching race between the stallions Hernando and Black Pilot is the topic of conversation among the horsemen and admirers of horse-flesh on the Island as well as throughout the Provinces. Hernando has arrived from Pictou and gone to Summerside to complete his training. Under the care of P. S. Brown he is said to be doing good work. Black Pilot is also being carefully handled, and it is said, is trotting inside 2:30.

Howe's Circus is to visit the Island shortly, giving performances in Charlottetown, Summerside, Souris and Georgetown. The show has been travelling through the Provinces for some time past, and the press appears to be divided as to its merits. Some papers say it is a colossal fraud, others that it is very good. The majority, however, say that it is not the gigantic organization advertised. Charlottetown people have been gulled so often by one-horse circus managers that they will probably teach Mr. Howe a lesson should he attempt to deceive them.

It is a great shame that a few of our young men should be allowed to go racing about Queen Square on bicycles, cutting up the walks and occasionally taking a "header" into the flower beds. Mr. Newbery has devoted considerable attention to these walks, and now that they are in good condition bicyclists should exercise a little common sense when taking advantage of them, even though they are in training for the championships.

Notes By The Way

A wolf crashed into a home in suburban Toronto. The only reason this made news is that the wolf had four feet.—Windsor Daily Star.

Because of complaints that tradespeople could not pronounce tongue-twisting Welsh street names, Aberdare council referred back to a sub-committee a recommendation that two new streets should be named "Penycase" and "Brienfa." Now the sub-committee has come forward with alternative names for the new streets. They have been approved. They are "Brynawelton" and "Maeshyfryd."—London News Chronicle.

If Malthus from his celestial monastery, revisits this earth, he must be hovering over India muttering, "I told you so." The report of the Census Commissioner for the 1951 census has now been published. The Commissioner, gazing with fascination upon his lists of figures, has reached the conclusion that "it is as nearly certain as any prediction can be that India's population will rise to 520,000,000 by 1961."—Winnipeg Free Press.

Certainly in some communities in North Simcoe there are far too many sports activities for boys between the ages of seven and 17. In Midland, for example, one youngster of our acquaintance is eligible this winter to play in no less than five ice hockey leagues along with four hockey leagues and basketball leagues. Both he and his parents would need seven league boots to keep up with his potential schedule. Many of the boys could be out of their homes five nights a week... and some of them are.—Midland Free Press-Herald.

A newspaper is not a sort of unofficial court, or church, which passes judgment upon what people do. The minute it assumes any such character it puts itself in a false and untenable position. Its task is to report what happens, as objectively as it can. If it has any opinions on the news, it has a page specially devoted to the expression of opinion. It is not a newspaper's job to bring any man into disgrace, or to deepen the disgrace into which he may bring himself. The newspaper's job is to report what happens—disgraceful conduct included.—Peterborough Examiner.

Nobody, to our knowledge, has ever figured out the total cost of smoke—in waste of fuel, in the dirtying of clothes and curtains, in its corrosive effects on the paint of houses and the stone of buildings, and in what it does to health. But in Hamilton alone it must run into millions in the course of a year. The beauty of smoke abatement is that it is one blood.—

of the rare processes which both increase public comfort and save money at the same time; the regulations governing it are among the rarest of laws—they are popular. For a firm or an individual on any grounds; their prosecution will draw them no sympathy from anybody.—Hamilton Spectator.

One of the world's greatest trulians is that money can't buy happiness. Newspaper reports on the fifth marriage of the dime store heiress, Barbara Hutton, one of the world's richest women, described how the bride "with tears in her eyes" asked reporters: "Do you think anyone will give him credit for loving me because I'm myself?" The marriages and romances of the world's wealthiest men and women which appear in the current news, and the restricted diet of one of the world's wealthiest men in a past era, are the proof that money cannot buy either love or a new stomach.—Sudbury Daily Star.

A great many people who buy shoes—good shoes, too—complain that they come equipped with solid leather heels, usually studded with some hefty steel nails. A shoemaker told us the other day that it costs the manufacturers more to build solid leather heels than to build on rubber ones. We would like to know why shoe manufacturers haven't cottoned to the fact that most people wear rubber heels these days and would like all their shoes to come equipped with them. It would save the manufacturer money and it would save the buyer money. Since we don't know of any Canadians who don't wear shoes this means all of us.—Vancouver Province.

The Age Old Story

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands... Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

DRIVER JAILED

TORONTO, (CP)—Victor Hearn 27, charged with drunken driving was sentenced to seven days in jail Monday by Magistrate W. W. McKeown who based his judgment partly on evidence of a "drunkometer" test—the "drunkometer" test is conducted by the suspect blowing up a balloon and his breath being analyzed, indicating the percentage of alcohol in his blood.

THE FIRST IN CANADA. The "Phoenix" of London is particularly proud of its Canadian record, for it was founded in 1785, and established the first British insurance office in Canada in 1804—one hundred and fifty years ago. FIRE - CASUALTY - MARINE - INLAND TRANSPORTATION. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. Established 1875. General Agents for Prince Edward Island. Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN - SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE. Agents throughout the Province.

The Passing Scene

By Observer UNESCO AND T. V.

It probably is true to say that every new device of man's ingenuity has been met with a measure of hostility, scepticism, and alarm. It is on record that when the first railway coach was substituted for the stage-coach in America a group of business men petitioned the government to take it off the road. They said it was "dangerous, unreliable, and much too costly." The first crude electric lamp was described by a newspaper of the day as "an innovation not likely to come into general use." It was thought that the gas lamps were better in every way.

The first motion pictures were met with a barrage of criticism which has not been silenced to this day, although it has died. For the last thirty years or so the cinema has had to share the seat of the accused with radio. Now, it is the turn of television; it is safe to say that no discovery in the long history of science has been the subject of so much controversy. Perhaps this is because no other discovery, at least in its early stages, has been so closely linked with the everyday lives of so many people. There are approximately 35 million families in the United States now; over 20 million of these have television sets. In Britain the ratio is somewhat lower but, even so, it is set for every 24 persons. In this country the figures are very much lower, but only because facilities have been slower in making their appearance. And television has only just begun its triumphant march. Unless something unforeseen—atomic war, for instance—shows smart things up, it will cover the earth in another decade or two.

The sociological and economic implications of this new thing are so profound that Unesco, that auxiliary of the United Nations which takes about everything in its purview, has been looking into it and its first chief complaints are directed against the United States and for two simple reasons: (1) there are more television sets in the U. S. A. than anywhere else (2) what goes on in that country may be expected to set the pattern for most of the Western civilization and, in a lesser sense, for non-Western civilization as well.

Briefly, the complaints concern T.V.'s emphasis on mass appeal, continuous broadcasting from early morning to late night, commercial domination of programs, and bad taste all round. Mass appeal and commercial domination are separate parts of the same thing. So long as business must pay the piper business will call the tune. And so long as television is regarded as a commercial medium—as it certainly is at the moment—sponsors will

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