

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, SEPT. 18, 1951

Back To Fundamentals

Despite all the new techniques in education, it is the fundamentals that count; and it is interesting to note the increasing emphasis which is being placed by educational leaders on this once self-evident fact.

Throughout its report the committee stresses that the aim of education is to produce good citizens who are capable of clear and logical thinking.

As a main part of its four year investigation of secondary schools the committee surveyed 12,124 high school graduates and 14,219 who failed to complete their secondary education.

In the old days it used to be reported that the principal exports of Charlottetown were bank clerks and printers.

For girls, the report recommends that "home economics be offered in all secondary schools, and that more girls be encouraged to enroll in these courses."

While the committee suggests a number of steps that might check the tendency of students to leave before completing high school, it recommends the legal school-leaving age, both urban and rural, be set at 16 years in all provinces, except in "certain specified exemptions."

Stormy Debates Recalled

Great Britain's gift to Canada of two destroyers costing \$8,000,000 recalls to the Ottawa Journal the stormy debates which occurred, just short of 40 years ago, when the Government of Sir Robert Borden proposed a gift by Canada of three dreadnoughts to the British Navy at a cost of \$35,000,000.

The House in continuous round-the-clock session from March 3 to March 11; the great speeches of the old Gladstonian Liberal, Dr. Michael Clark; the "dawn to dusk" speech (nearly five hours) of David LaFortune; Sir Herbert Ames appearing at a night sitting with dressing gown and nightcap; the memorable Parnell-like obstructionist tactics of William Pugsley; Laurier's passionate speech (one of the greatest of his whole career) in protest over his being temporarily "gagged" when a Government supporter resorted to the device of the "previous question"; the violent scenes approaching fistcuffs over the introduction of "closure"; the final dramatic ending when the veteran Sir George W. Ross, speaking from a wheelchair, moved rejection of the bill in the Senate—all make up the most vivid chapter in the whole of our parliamentary story.

the arguments which prevailed—by the grace of the Senate—against the gift of three dreadnoughts to Britain—we were going to abandon our autonomy and become the puppets of Downing, Street—what a change in the outlook of all of us these 40 years have brought! No one in Britain today will say that the Atlee Government, making a gift of two destroyers to us, is tampering with Britain's autonomy, becoming the puppet of Ottawa. And no one in Ottawa will believe it, either. In concepts of autonomy, of sovereignty, most of us have grown up."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Anti-Corn Law League was founded this date 1837. An agitation had been started in Manchester the previous year and Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright were amongst the foremost advocates of Free Trade.

The Rural Youth Fair is itself young. This is its first year. To be young, however, is to have something which can be exchanged for experience although the opposite is sadly untrue.

Western wheat growers are concerned about the problem of storage but compared with the potato farmer facing the same problem they should be as carefree as crickets.

The stage activities of Little Theatre Guild members comes in for the greatest public notice but such work as promoting their current membership drive also contributes to the cause of theatre in the city.

Toronto citizens should object to their city's expenditure on entertainment according to the Ottawa Journal. The national capital itself seems to have forestalled any such criticism by treating the visiting Lord Mayor of London to kind words and little else.

In the old days it used to be reported that the principal exports of Charlottetown were bank clerks and printers. Nowadays nurses take the place of printers, and they make good every time. In a case like Miss Lea they set the pace.

An Aberdeen Angus bull was sold for the record price of \$57,000 Friday at a public auction at Red Bank, N. J. The Ralph L. Smith Farm of Chillicothe, Mo., made the purchase from Dr. Armand Hammer. There is money in live-stock breeding all right.

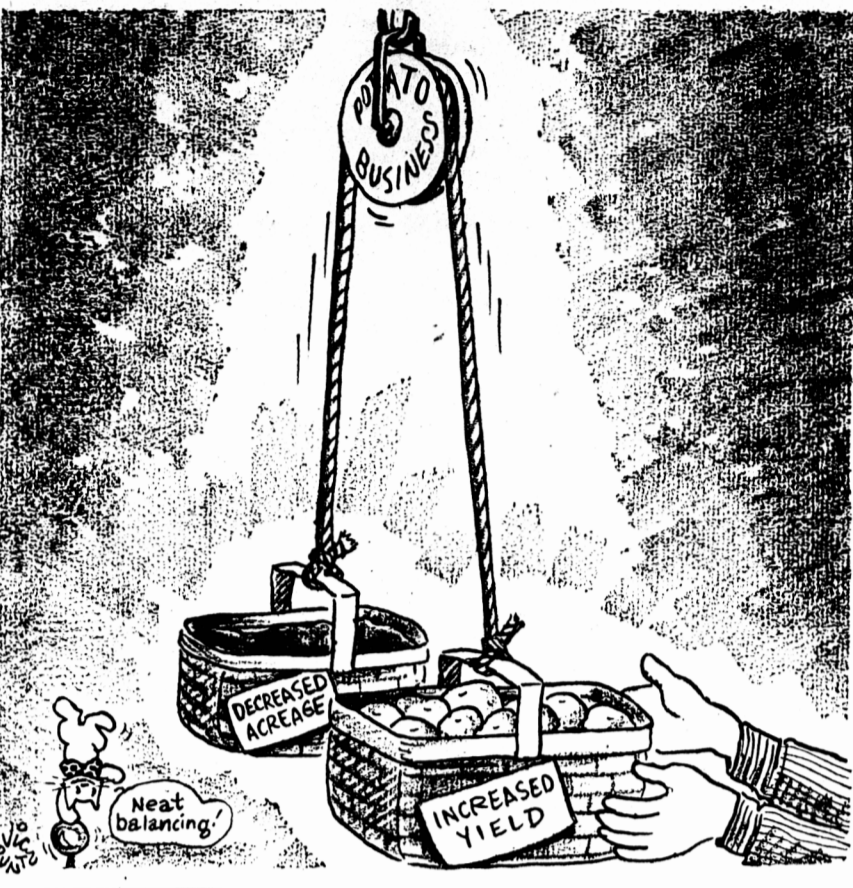
It did not take a Presbyterian minister at Ottawa long to dispel the demonstrators who, Prime Minister St. Laurent declared, were dupes of Communists and innocents who want a type of peace that would bring Canada under the heel of the Kremlin.

Highlanders are mindful of the land of their forbears. Mr. Murdo Macaulay, who died at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, about six months ago, has left almost the whole of his \$300,000 fortune to the islanders of Lewis, where he was born 83 years ago. His will shows that except for a few minor legacies all his money goes to "such charitable, educational, and other purposes as the bank may deem fit within the island of Lewis, especially the port of Ness."

Transport Controller of the Hudson Bay Route Association has been instructed to apply for an extension of the shipping season at Port Churchill. In a letter to the newly-appointed controller, S. N. MacEachern of Saskatoon, vice-president of the association, said it is not too late to arrange for the movement of a greater volume of wheat out of Churchill this year.

Mayor Houde of Montreal proudly boasted at a dinner there that Montreal has doubled in population since 1939, there was plenty of employment there and no reason that he could see for anyone going to Toronto or elsewhere. "Why," he said, "in about six months we are going to have an employment problem here — not an unemployment problem, mind you, but a problem of where to find workers for our industries." Most of the questions concerned traffic problems and the mayor cheerfully but firmly insisted the solution lay as much in the hands of the public as of the City Council.

A Desirable Counterbalance



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.

Y'S MEN'S SHOW

Sir.—Please allow me space to express a word of appreciation and commendation to the Charlottetown Y's Men's Club for the excellent show put on last week in the Forum. The zoo itself showing the wild animals in their natural surroundings was well worth several times the price of admission.

I am, Sir, etc. VISITOR FROM U.S.A. (G. W. A. Ives) Charlottetown, Sept. 17.

The Poet's Corner

TRADE WINDS

In the harbour, in the island, in the Spanish Seas, Are the tiny white houses and the orange-trees, And day-long, night-long, the cool and pleasant breeze Of the steady Trade Wind blowing.

—John Masfield.

Old Charlottetown

OLDTIME FLOWING MATCH

"The Queen's County Subscription Flowing Match, promoted by the commissioners of the late Exhibition of local industry, came off on Tuesday at Marshfield, Lot 34. Seven ploughs started in the men's class, and four in the lads'." The judges were Messrs. John Ferguson, East River, Alex. McBeath, and George Scott, referee.

"We regret to see that many promising young ploughmen continue to use the old-fashioned wooden plough, an excellent useful implement in its way, but not just the thing for a ploughing match. We regret also to know that many really excellent workmen abstain from trying their skill at ploughing matches from want of confidence as to their success."

STORM WARNINGS

Destructive windstorm can frequently be predicted by the weather service, and some severe storms come without warning. Substantially built properties have been, can be, and will be damaged.

NO SECTION OF THE COUNTRY IS IMMUNE. The Supplemental Contract added to a fire policy includes windstorm coverage at an over-all moderate cost. Don't overlook it. We will be glad of an opportunity to be of service. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. Established 1873. Offices: Charlottetown, Summerside, Montague. Agents Throughout the Province.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England.—Football, about which I had something to say in my last "Notes," is to us something far more than a sporting activity. For one thing it is an industry employing, directly or indirectly, a very great number of people: apart from the players, managers, trainers, ground men and others engaged in its actual operation, think of the journalists who make a living out of reporting the matches; apart from those who work at making the equipment with which the games are played, think of the vast numbers of clerks who are employed by the football "pools" firms, checking the entries of millions of folk who try each week to win a little or a lot by correctly forecasting the results of some of the matches.

For another thing football is a source of great revenue for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who collects taxes in one way or another from almost every branch of the football industry.

But perhaps above everything else football keeps its hold on us because it is a manifestation of local, as distinct from national pride: the sort of pride that makes us feel good if the team bearing the name of our own home town beats opposition from another part of the country, and puts us temporarily down in the dumps if it suffers defeat.

This matter of local pride is very important to us. How important has been proved statistically, by figures which have shown that when a football team does well, factory production increases in the town of its origin, with the opposite effect when it has a run of ill-fortune. In even more stern times, during the war, the close connection between local pride and service morale was recognized and acted upon by posting Army recruits, after basic training, to regiments formed largely of men from the same part of the country and often bearing the name of the very county or town from whence they came.

A man might thus feel that he was fighting for something very close to home, alongside men who spoke the same kind of dialect as himself. Local honour was bound up with the nation's security, and tradition itself became not a nebulous link with an undefined past but a strong link with one's own forefathers, who had borne the regimental colours in battle through innumerable generations. The same sentiments apply in times of peace, though with less bitter object. A county, a city, town or other locality that succeeds in comparison with its neighbours, whether in sport, in industrial prosperity, in cleanliness

Notes By The Way

The library of the United States Congress is submitting the arrangements for the protection of the Constitution and other rare documents to careful scrutiny, because recently a visitor drew to the attention of a guard a caterpillar that of a buffalo moth — which was "nibbling" at the parchment leaf" containing the resolution, signed by George Washington, transmitting the Constitution to the continental Congress. An official of the library said that insects of various sorts had got into the exhibition case three times since 1945. — London Times.

even in the quality of paint on its buildings is a cause of chest-swelling to its inhabitants. Even what might be termed negative virtues are extolled, and the greater the hardship or suffering a place may have endured, the greater is the pride of its people. Hence, if a man cannot claim that his home town is better, or bigger, or this or that in excess of someone else's, he may still be assured of a respectful hearing if he wants to argue that where he comes from they had more bombs dropped on them in the war, or that they have more fuel cuts, or even that more people get murdered.

We must, however, be allowed our quota of illogicality in this matter as in most others. Football again provides an example, through what is known as the transfer system. This allows for a star player to be virtually sold by one team to another for a large sum of money. He may thus be "transferred" from one town to another hundreds of miles away. It follows, therefore, that a wealthy club can "buy" a team of ready-made stars; if they care to take on, in addition, a foreign immigrant who shows an aptitude for the game, who cares? In an extreme case, Blanktonk Rovers may field a team of men of whom not one was born within a couple of hundred miles of Blanktonk, and nobody minds. Certainly not the population of Blanktonk, to whom any player who wears the Blanktonk colours is one of "our" boys. What's more, mention of this anomaly in the course of argument is thought to be rather hitting below the belt.

The number of more-or-less small exhibitions of one kind or another that have sprung up like mushrooms during the Festival of Britain months is quite too large to be capable of detail. "Exhibition of Architecture," "Exhibition of Historic Plate," "Exhibition of Sporting Trophies," exhibitions of this and exhibitions of that could all be understood when seen advertised. It seemed, however, that the ultimate had been reached when it was announced that there was to be held an "Exhibition of Exhibitions."

The flock of recent mishaps might seem to suggest that too many inexperienced pilots are venturing into the north country. Some of the searches have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Should not some restrictions be imposed on who may fly into the lonely wilderness, especially hunting and fishing? It may be that some prohibitions are justified. Certainly only persons skilled both in flying and in living in the bush and only the best equipped aircraft should make the trips north, and then only in good weather conditions, for the reason that in the event of trouble searches are so costly. The future of unnecessary private flying in the northern wilderness should perhaps be reviewed, at least until better facilities for that flying are available. — Calgary Albertan.

The Age-Old Story

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor the stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

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