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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12, 1955

Japan And Bandung

Having allowed their professional militarists to damage their friendly relations with other members of Asiatic society, the Japanese are finding that it is not easy to repair the break.

The latest report is that Tokyo officials are weighing the half-hearted invitation very carefully with these considerations in mind.

In any event, the fact that the Red Chinese are going to Bandung—presumably with Mr. Nehru's approval—will make the conference of very little, if any, political value.

Cutting Them Short

The proposal to limit the length of speeches in the House of Commons is likely to be attacked on the ground of interference with free speech; but we venture to say that the measure, if it passes, will prove beneficial to all concerned.

The Globe and Mail apparently shares this opinion. It points out that a rapid speaker, like the late Prime Minister R. B. Bennett, can utter more than 150 words a minute.

There is no time limit at Westminster, but British MP's have a better plan. Anyone who detains the Mother of Parliaments for more than half-an-hour is rebuked by yawns, snores, walkouts and other devices indicating boredom.

As to the debate on the Throne Speech, Westminster's example is again instructive: no rule but an inter-party agreement, hardly ever broken and then usually by consent, to wind up this opening canto in a

week, which means five debating days. The British custom, worth noting, is to concentrate on a single topic—it may be foreign affairs, taxation or agriculture—on each of the days.

The argument in favor of rules is that they expedite business. But, as the Globe and Mail points out, shortening a debate or a session is, of course, not a desirable end in itself.

Subtle Trickery

Anyone who knows anything about the history of Marxism or Catholicism—or both—knows very well that there is not and cannot be any such thing as Marxist Catholicism.

Already the government has made instruction in Marxism compulsory for all Church schools and seminaries; and at the present time a small group of so-called "patriot priests" is being trained for supervisory posts in the new "religious" system.

There's something in a place name, after all. A little town in Georgia (pop. 300) has such small mail volume during most of the year that every autumn it comes dangerously close to losing its post office.

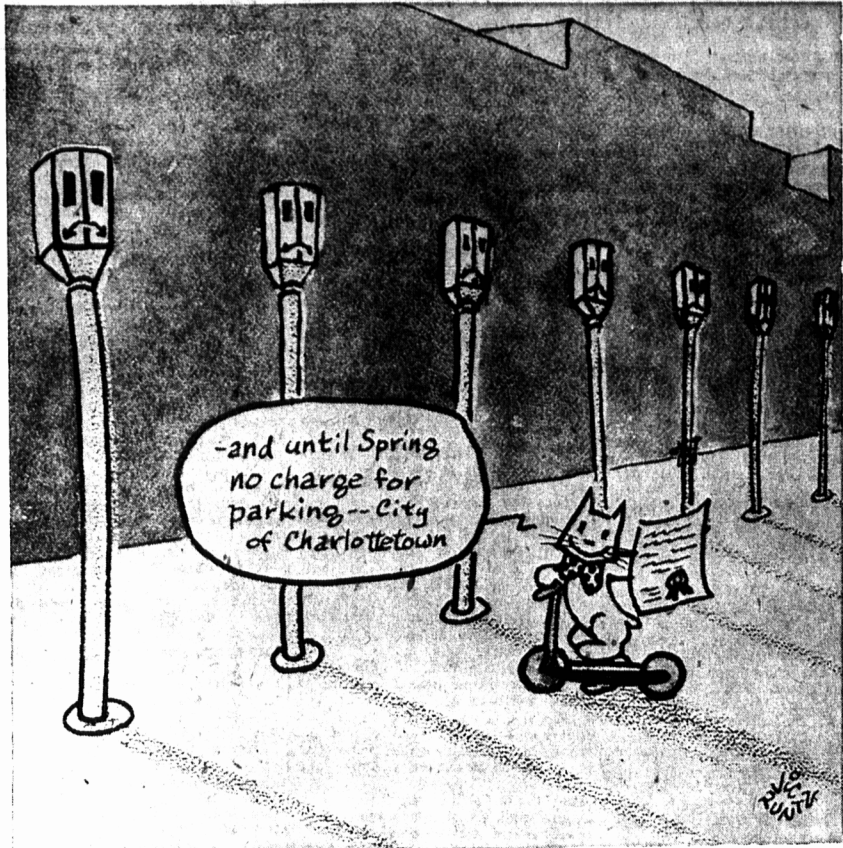
EDITORIAL NOTES

Whatever Mr. Hammarskjold may or may not be able to accomplish at Peiping, he surely deserves a holiday before resuming his job as the head of a small army of secretarian workers—4000, to be exact.

Almost a forgotten man was Marshal Graziani, Italy's "Desert Lion" who died yesterday at 72, an unrepentant Fascist. He had reconquered North Africa's Libyan tribesmen for Mussolini's empire after the First World War, and led the latter's forces to victory in the Italian war against Ethiopia.

A British Regiment, the 1st Battalion of the Gloucestershires, has been given the unique right to carry a United States award on the pike of its regimental colours. This is an emblem of the American presidential citation for the battalion's epic three-day stand in a Korean battle in 1951.

Thomas Hardy, O.M., last of the great Victorian writers, died this date 1928. Starting as an ecclesiastical architect, he scored his first literary success in 1872 with his novel, "Under the Greenwood Tree".



Seasonally Unemployed - - - With No Regrets

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHIES

Sir.—There is taking place in Canada and in the United States today, a controversy on the educational philosophies being advocated and implemented in both countries.

Why is it important that we as Canadians and more particularly as Islanders, understand, and be concerned with this controversy?

"Progressive Education" is a philosophy which has gained a foothold on Prince Edward Island. No one can deny that the spark which spread the fire of Progressive Education on the continent, was set by an American philosopher named John Dewey.

We Prince Edward Islanders are complacently accepting as the guide for the education of our children, the word of a man who does not believe in God and who is quoted in his own book "What I Believe" as saying: "Faith in the Divine Author and authority in which western civilization confided, inherited ideas of the soul and its destiny, of fixed revelation... have been made impossible for the cultivated mind of the western world."

As parents of our children we are responsible for the welfare of our future Islanders; we must not accept such a well known philosophy, or Godliness will be undermined and chaos will result.

CAR FERRY SERVICE

Sir.—I read with much interest a letter in The Guardian, January 10, from Mr. F. W. Curtis about the car ferry Prince Edward Island. I do not agree with Mr. Curtis. Before I can figure out how he could use the word "obsolete" or compare automobiles and farm machinery with that good old ship, The Prince Edward Island is a wonderful icebreaker and proved it many times when there were lots of heavy running ice in the straits.

I remember well what a time the old boat had to get through the ice in winters gone by. I saw her back off for a couple of hundred yards and then come on to it with all the steam we could get on and after going five or six feet fetch up solid. What would happen to the more modern ship if she got ice like that? I think I know the answer. We are having very mild winters the last number of years but wait, the weatherman might forget himself some time and send a real old timer along. Then we would have to get the old time boat to look after our wants. The old boat is well looked after by qualified men who know of their own power when it comes to keeping the old ship in good running order. Her boilers and engines are run over many times. I saw her boilers re-tubed year after year.

I think it is proper to have a

The Age Old Story

Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength... O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth. Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved.

little nice furnishings. All modern ships have very nice salons. Perhaps the Government may build another ship and make the furnishings very simple, nail legs and choose boxes to sit on instead of soft cushions. But whatever they do about building new ships, let them hold on to the old ferry Prince Edward Island and don't worry, if the people of the Island wake up and look out and see only one boat, I have a good idea which one it will be and that same one will be there for a very long time. I am, Sir, etc., CAR FERRY JOE Charlottetown

CHRISTIANITY IN BRITAIN

Sir.—I read, with much interest, an article on the editorial page of your paper, dated Dec. 23/54 headed: "Link with St. Columba". May I make a few observations regarding same, especially to paragraph two. A casual reading of this section—"The Saint who took Christianity to Scotland" would have a tendency to leave the impression that St. Columba was the first to bring Christianity to any part of Scotland.

Now, Sir, it is generally recognized that Druidism was the earliest known form of religion in Western Europe, with headquarters in Britain; but it gradually gave way to Christianity. Meanwhile it had penetrated far East as Italy and Greece. Even Plato said that the streams of Grecian philosophy were to be traced, not to Egypt, but to the West. Pythagoras, the Italian scholar, was believed to have been a Druid.

Between the years 48 and 118 A. D. it (Britain) was the recipient of much attention from the pagans of the mainland of Europe. At that time Britain was the only free State in all that part of the then known world; therefore it was the only secure asylum for Christians.

The first Dispersion of the Church from the East was towards Britain, and the first Planters of the Church came, practically, directly to that country known, now, as the British Isles. They came from the Holy Land.

It is believed by many readers of Bible history that in the seventy weeks of Daniel's prophecy ended in 36 A.D., and in that same year the Kingdom was taken from the Jews, and established in the land of the "Covenant People"—Britain.

A great many of the tribes of Dan and Asher, who were a seafaring people, had already become established in Britain. The tin mines of Cornwall were worked by those people about 2500 years ago; here many of them settled and their numbers increased rapidly. This was about the time of the building of Solomon's Temple. Historians believe that the first Christian church in Western Europe was founded by Joseph of Arimathea in "The Isle of Avalon"—Glastonbury, Somersetshire. Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea, wrote in 320 A.D.—"The Apostles passed beyond the ocean to the Isles called the Britannie Isles". Gildas, the British historian, in 594 says:—"We certainly know, that Christ the true Son of God, forsook his light, the knowledge of his precepts to the Island, in the last year of Tiberius Caesar A.D. 37. It has been written that, St. Paul with Mark, Luke and Timothy came to Britain in the year 62. Was it not St. Paul who founded the first Christian Church on the bank of the Thames? Where the cathedral stands today. When Julius Caesar landed in Britain, this is what he actually found—a country, thickly inhabited by a brave and gallant people, having large towns and cities, with well-disciplined soldiers, fighting in

The Poet's Corner

AFTERWARDS

When the Present has latched its postern behind my tremulous stay, And the May month flaps its glad green leaves like wings, Delicate-filmed as new-spun silk, will the neighbors say, 'He was a man who used to notice such things?'

If it be in the dusk when, like an eyelid's soundless blink, The dewfall-hawk comes crossing the shades to alight Upon the wind-warped upland thorn a gazer may think, 'To him this must have been a familiar sight.'

If I pass during some nocturnal blackness, mothy and warm, When the hedgehog travels furtively over the lawn, One may say, 'He strove that such innocent creatures should come to no harm, But he could do little for them; and now he is gone.'

If, when hearing that I have been stilled at last, they stand at the door, Watching the full-starred heavens that winter sees, Will this thought rise in those who will meet my face no more, 'He was one who had an eye for such mysteries?'

And will any say when my bell of quietance is heard in the gloom, And a crossing breeze cuts a pause in its outcroppings, Till they rise again, as they were a new bell's boom, 'He hears it not now, but used to notice such things?'

—Thomas Hardy

charlots-of-war—quite the opposite of "Painted Savages" and ignorant and uninformed Barbarians, as some of our modern history books endeavour to teach. It has also been written that before the end of the second century, there were about 200 Christian churches about the Firth of Forth and Clyde on the North and the English channel and Land's End on the South.

The earliest converts to true Christianity were Gladys or Claudia, Eurgan and Linus, the two daughters and son of Caradoc, who was King of Siluria. Simon Zelotes, the Apostle, is said to have preached, and now lies buried, in that part of "The Isle of the Sea" called Lincolnshire. The next planter of Christianity was Aristobulus (one of the 70) brother of Barnabas and father-in-law of St. Peter, it is believed.

Bran and Caradoc were converted and baptized by St. Paul. It is said that he, St. Paul, while in Rome made his home with Claudius and her husband, Pudens, who was a man of high rank in the Roman Army of that time. Was not Linus, the son of Caradoc, made the first Bishop of Rome by St. Paul? After Caradoc returned to Britain, St. Paul followed and confirmed the British Churches in the original faith. Again, after about six years' work, he returned to Rome where he was martyred.

The first British Church A.D. was practically co-eval with that of the first Pentecostal Church in Jerusalem, this being at least seven years before the establishment of any Christian Church on the

French Electoral Reform

Proposals for electoral reform announced by Premier Mendès-France look like a significant opening move in the developing battle of French internal politics. With the debate on German rearmament out of the way, party lines are being tentatively drawn for what may emerge as a protracted parliamentary struggle between the traditional right, coalescing in opposition to the prime minister, and a new non-Communist left rallying to his support.

It is freely stated in France that P. M. F., as he is widely called, is a doomed man politically. His opponents, principally right-wing Conservatives and members of the Mouvement Republicain Populaire who have largely governed France since the Second World War, expect to bring about his fall soon after the parliamentary recess. Some of the premier's own supporters say the only hope is for him to be defeated now and come back strong in preparation for next year's elections.

It is here that the proposed electoral reforms may be significant. If approved by the French assembly, their effect would be to substitute a single - constituency system for the present combination of proportional representation and the party system, thus placing greater emphasis on individual deputies and less on parties. To an outside observer, the most baffling feature of the present French situation is the apparent contradiction between the prime minister's popularity in the country, which nobody doubts, and his lack of support in the assembly.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Not enough drivers realize that the nose of the car is as long as its braking distance added to the driver's reaction distance. At 30 miles an hour the front bumper is 83 feet ahead of where the driver is sitting. —Royal Bank Letter.

If you wish to disillusion yourself further concerning the human race, select at random ten members of civic clubs and ask each which he considers more important at a club luncheon: A good speech or a good meal. —Kitchener Record.

Said Mr. Dobrynin of the Russian embassy to our reporter Mr. Cromley: "Why don't you trust us?" Well, perhaps we have told the anecdote before but it still applies. It's about the ancient melodrama, "Nellie, the Beautiful Cloak Model". In the first act the villain tries to push Nellie off the dock. In the second he ties her to a railroad track and in the third she lies in the path of a bus-saw. In the fourth act the villain says: "Nellie, do you mistrust me?" —Wall Street Journal.

It was three years ago that the Flying Enterprise, though she foundered at the last, became one of the most famous ships in the world. Since then, Captain Kurt Carlsen has quietly dropped out of the public eye (he never relished being there in the first place), and presumably is still sailing the seas as the master of Flying Enterprise's vision camera. Now has come another season of storm and destruction at sea, and new names have arisen from it. Of these, the Swedish freighter Petra has won special acclaim. Rudderless, with dead engines and no lights, the Petra managed to ride out the gale and was towed to the safety of a German harbor. The tugs came to the

rescue after the ship's first officer and five crewmen, taking advantage of quieter seas, put off to the nearby Schleswig-Holstein coast in a rowboat. They had then been without sleep for about 100 hours. Kurt Carlsen would probably approve of shipmates like those. —Ottawa Citizen.

Under a precedent established by President Washington, a president retains ownership of his private papers and some of his public papers as well. He may take them when he leaves office. His political opponents always complain he is looting the files. Mr. Roosevelt took his papers to Hyde Park, and Mr. Truman is raising funds for a library at Independence, Mo. The Congress published Washington's papers, but only what it got from his literary executor, Bushrod Washington, a nephew. George was a salty letter writer, and Bushrod unhappily destroyed what he thought improper, which was a lot. President Lincoln was careless with his letters and other papers, and his son Robert, packed them out of the White House by the wagonload immediately after the assassination. Some of them were probably destroyed within a few months and the remainder were made public only a few years ago. —San Francisco Chronicle.

Matters have come to a point where a longer is it a question of Canadian ships supplying the bottoms for our coastal trade, but a question of getting ships flying a flag to do the job. This is no time for chauvinism as respects ships in a world where the seas are free for the enterprise of all nations. There are those who campaign against foreign ships using the St. Lawrence Seaway. What a dismal folly! The Britons have the best of reasons for wanting to see the sun shining upon many more ships sailing in and out of Sydney Harbour, and the more colourful and various the flags they fly the better for everyone. Let it not be forgotten that competition helps to keep freight rates from soaring. —Sydney Post-Record.

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