

Supersnipes In Tibet

When the Chinese Communists took Tibet under their "protection" they offered the Dalai Lama, the spiritual ruler of the Forbidden Land, a British made Humber Supersnipe car. For some reason or other the young man has not yet accepted the gift.

Whatever the reason, the Communists are not too well pleased about the situation and recently they thought up a plan which they hope will change the young ruler's mind. The plan was to give an identical car to the Panchen Lama, the second in command; to make sure that this second gift was not left in the dealer's garage on the Chinese side of the border they had it driven right up to Panchen's front door.

Trade With Britain

Mr. James S. Duncan, chairman of the Dollar-Sterling Trade Council, has announced an intensified campaign to step up trade between Canada and Britain. The purpose of this new drive, according to the Ottawa Citizen, is to increase Canadian purchases of British goods so that Canada, in turn, may be able to sell more to Britain.

The Council's 7 per cent implies the balancing of bilateral accounts. A better approach, argues The Citizen, is through multilateral trading. If, for example, Britain happens to push up its sales to the U. S. rather than to Canada, this country would still feel the beneficial effects.

A Changing Pattern

The Economics Division of the Canada Department of Agriculture has recently called attention to some of the changes which have been taking place in Canadian agriculture, especially between the two census years, 1941 and 1951.

In 1951, there were 2.5 times as many trucks and tractors on farms as in 1941, and five times as many combines. Farmers using electricity had increased from 117,000 to 336,000, while the consumption of electricity per farm customer had increased by about 65 per cent.

Total occupied farm land had increased by about three per cent, but the number of farms dropped from 733,000 to 623,000. Today, therefore, the average size of farm is 279 acres, despite the very large number of quite small farms in Eastern Canada and British Columbia.

In 1927, only 170,000 tons of commercial fertilizers were used in Canada, while in 1952 the tonnage was 769,000. Another notable change is that the purchase of feed and seed as a proportion of total farm expenses was 22.1 per cent in 1950 as compared with only 10.3 per cent in 1926.

While all these changes have been taking place, the farm population has decreased as a proportion of the total. Between 1941 and 1951 total Canadian population rose from 11.5 million to 14 million, but the farm population dropped from 3.1 million to 2.8 million, or from 27.1 to 20.2 per cent of total population.

Unwise Edict

The London, Eng., City Council recently issued an edict forbidding tenants in a new housing development to keep pets; persons who defy the ban will be transferred to poorer accommodations elsewhere. This is certainly an example of the arbitrary ways of modern bureaucracy and it is so regarded by the tenants concerned who have declared their intention to move out in a mass demonstration of anger and protest.

Cat lovers and pet lovers in all categories the world over will give these doughty and loyal Londoners their full moral support. The private landlord who stipulates "no pets" in his renting agreements is, of course, within his rights; but, presumably, this housing development in London was made possible by public funds, and it is only right and proper that public sentiment should have some say in its home-making program.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, 1926.

The proposed Pacific pact against aggression in Southeast Asia may be known as SEATO or PATO for Southeast Asia Treaty Organization and Pacific Treaty Organization respectively.

According to Science Information Service it is possible to predict the approximate adult height of a child. It will usually be twice the height of the boy or girl at the age of two.

The announcement that H. M. the Queen Mother will pay a short visit to Ottawa in November, following her stay at the White House, will be received with pleasure by Canadians everywhere.

Britain may soon be bringing more newsprint from this country. A ship specially designed to carry Canadian newsprint was launched recently on the Clyde. The Baskerville is 8,900 tons deadweight and will carry a cargo of 6,000 tons.

On Thursday some 50 Canadian organizations will be represented at talks at Ottawa considering the position and prospects of practically every basic industry except mining. Our natural resources, together with our human resources, are the basis of the future and a thorough examination of development policies is long overdue.

Charlotte Bronte, novelist and poet, eldest of the three literary members of her family, was born this date 1816. Brought up on the bleak Yorkshire moors, the children, particularly Charlotte, interested themselves in production of a juvenile magazine. In "Jane Eyre" she describes her school days and in "Villette" she records her experience of Brussels where she studied not only the language but the people.

R.A.F. squadron No. 5, associated with the Canadian Corps in Europe in 1918, will be presented with a standard at Wunstorf on April 24th, reports "This Week In Britain". The squadron's connection with Canada has been perpetuated by a Maple Leaf which appears in the squadron badge.



Artist's Despair

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.

WOODVILLE MILLS POND

Sir,—May I use your Forum in an attempt to reach the ears of "the Powers That Be", that they may make haste to save the pond at Woodville Mills, 6 miles east of Cardigan. The dam broke weeks ago and although the Fitzpatrick's have fought stubbornly to repair it they have not succeeded.

The Department of Highways has been alerted but no satisfactory response has come. May be the tourist personnel and disciples of Isaac Walton will use their influence to get some action.

I am, Sir, etc., K. M. GOFF, R.R. 1, Cardigan.

MORAL TEACHING IN SCHOOLS

Sir,—In the Guardian of April 12th there appeared an editorial on this subject. I had twenty years experience among schools where was given to this teaching, based on Bible lessons. No denominational doctrines were taught, no effort made to bring the pupils into any particular church.

But this question presents difficulties. Can effective moral teaching be given without bringing in religion? Can this subject be taught as any other, such as arithmetic, quite apart from religion? This is doubtful. The source and power of morality is belief in a righteous and loving supreme power we call God.

Here is the difficulty: Can a teacher who does not believe in a righteous and loving God teach moral principles? I have seen it done, but it is not effective. But the teacher who believes this and with heart and soul puts himself into his teaching it is effective in the life of the school. I have seen it and I know it is true.

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

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I.

RAILWAY EXTENSION "We understand that the Government intend extending the railway line from the Roundhouse, Charlottetown, across the McMillan property and down the Steam Navigation Company's Wharf. The line would have been extended some months ago, but no amicable agreement as to the land damages could be arrived at between the Railway Department and the land owners.

Secrecy In Politics

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Mr. Herbert Morrison, a British statesman who should be the last to need it, has lately learned a useful lesson in democracy. He has denounced the newspapers for printing news of the secret caucus of the Labor Party and seeks to consider this almost a high crime against the state itself.

As Mr. John Pickersgill, Canadian Secretary of State, observed in recent speech, there is a legitimate place for secrecy in our system of government. The proceedings of Cabinets must be secret, indeed all Cabinet Ministers are solemnly sworn to secrecy, because a Cabinet, though often disagreeing, must finally accept a policy and present it unanimously to Parliament and public, or otherwise the whole structure of Cabinet solidarity necessarily will collapse.

But Mr. Pickersgill admits that the newspapers are quite entitled, if they can, to secure news about Cabinet proceedings and disagreements. And assuredly there is and can be no protection for the secrecy of Party caucuses. Their business is legitimate public news if the newspapers can discover it.

As the London Economist observes, Mr. Morrison's rather bad-tempered and childish complaints "have served only to remind the public of the dangerous extension of caucus rule on both sides of the House of Commons. The press has a duty to throw the clearest light it can on the regrettable process of secret disagreements, secretly arrived at, through which his and his opponents' Party juntas now fumble towards the policies that they present to the public as the only true course of reason and light."

The most disturbing modern trend in the British parliamentary system of government, as transplanted to Canada, is the decline in the powers of Parliament—especially notable in Canada because no adequate Opposition or alternative Government has existed here for many years. The real centre of

take the land required and leave the question of damages to be decided by the Exchequer Court of Canada. This caused some delay. But now a plan and description of the land required for the extension has been registered in the office of the Registrar of Deeds, which vests the land in the Government; and the track will, no doubt, be laid without any further delay.

—The Examiner, Dec. 6, 1888.

power has shifted more and more to the Cabinet and, to a considerable extent anyway, from the Cabinet to the bureaucracy.

Under these conditions it is more necessary than ever that the public should be given all the information that the press can gather about the affairs of Cabinets, political Parties and civil servants. Naturally politicians like Mr. Morrison in Britain, and Canadian politicians also, are irritated to find the private disagreements of their Parties revealed to the public, but this is an essential part of the democratic process. It is only in theory or in text books suitable for the very young that Parties or even Cabinets agree on everything.

The Age Old Story

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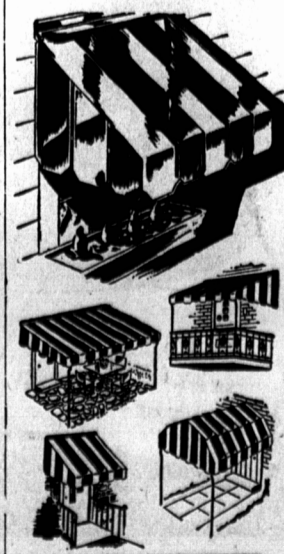
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NOTES BY THE WAY

We really felt quite young until the sick, new chick at the office called us "dad".—Brandon Sun.

People are like matches; when they flare up they lose their heads.—Edmond Journal.

The man with a one-track mind always thinks he has the right-of-way.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A survey conducted by a beauty expert seems to indicate the men prefer women a little on the plump side. A little mayonnaise with the lettuce, please.—St. Catharines Standard.

Remember when—you'd meet a car every six or seven miles on the highway, gentlemen raised their hats to ladies, the ladies did not smoke, people walked to work, Spring was an adventure, the things you bought had quality, young men were glad to start at the foot of the ladder, we made our own ice cream, and we could do a full day's work, and Home Sweet Home meant just that.—London Free Press.

Churchill is brave, articulate, brilliant. He has also been pitiless. He is believed, for instance, to have been deeply worried, but dry-eyed, about the Gallipoli disaster of the First Great War and the raising of Coventry almost three decades later. To have been otherwise might have impaired the delicately ruthless mechanism of leadership at a crucial moment.

Harken all those whom excess avoidrupis has induced to see the doctor, and from him to receive a diet! Turn an ear to a word of advice. Listen to what Dr. Irvine H. Page, head specialist of Cleveland, had to say recently in Chicago. "I think a lot of doctors say casually to a patient that he should take this or that diet, without realizing what a job going on a diet is."

WHOOPING CRANES SIGHTED SASKATOON, (CP)—Three of the 24 whooping cranes known to exist were sighted Friday at two Saskatchewan points 100 miles

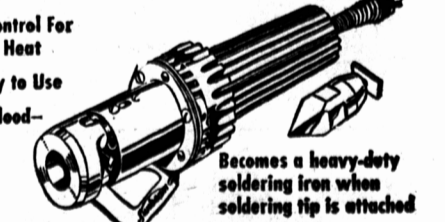
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