

The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1951

Immortal Nonsense

If you want to know who we are, we are gentlemen of Japan. On many a vase and jar—on many a screen and fan, we figure in lively paint. Our attitudes are queer and quaint—You're wrong if you think it ain't. "The Mikado" is the most popular of all the famous comic operas by Gilbert and Sullivan, and tonight's performance by the Prince of Wales College Chorus in the College auditorium should make a strong popular appeal. Nothing like this attempt has been made locally on such a scale for many years. The ensemble, of sixty-five voices, will be supported by soloists and character actors and the Japanese costumes, all the way from Titipu, are authentic in every detail. Stage directions and musical scores are also authentic. An orchestra and two pianos will provide the magnificent accompaniment. The stage has been doubled in size and provided with lush oriental scenery for the occasion. Members of the cast, under the competent direction of Miss Lillian MacKenzie, have been training strenuously for their parts, and the performance should be a most enjoyable one throughout. We are pleased to note that it will run for three evenings, thus providing opportunity for all music lovers throughout the Province to enjoy the treat.

Gilbert and Sullivan operas are unique in their way, for every age finds them fresh and exhilarating. They appeal to every taste. Their humour seems to be inherent in the music as well as in the words, and the two vehicles of expression have never been so happily combined. The characters are a race by themselves—spirited, charming, and gay in circumstances that most of us would find quite intolerable. No one who has once encountered Naki-Poo, Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Pish-Tush will ever forget them. We shall have them with us this week, along with Yum-Yum, Katisha and the rest, as they come from the fertile brains of their originators. And whether we welcome them as old friends or new, they rate a full fanfare. As the Mikado himself says in the finale, "Nothing could possibly be more satisfactory!"

A Meeting in Moscow

The ten American Church leaders, representing the National Council of Churches, who went to Moscow a week or so ago on a goodwill visit to Russian Orthodox Church dignitaries, seem to have run into political controversy which they had not anticipated. This, at any rate, is the inference to be gathered from a dispatch to the New York Times from its Moscow correspondent.

The trouble arose when Metropolitan Nikolai, the Orthodox spokesman and host at the meeting, brought up the matter of the Soviet-sponsored World Peace Council, which the Russian prelate called "the champion of peace loving forces in the world". This description was challenged by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, leader of the American delegation, who reminded the Metropolitan that in 1952 at a conference sponsored by this same "Peace Council", the Soviet Government's charge that the United States had engaged in germ warfare in Korea was upheld. Dr. Blake went on to say that Western Churches would never support the World Peace Council so long as it adhered to Soviet policy in every world problem, as it has done invariably up to the present. This angered Archbishop Nikolai; and charges and counter-charges of bad faith and intention held the floor for several minutes. Finally, religious calm triumphed over bad tempers.

It was not expected in the first place that the American delegates and their Russian hosts would see eye to eye on many questions that might come up for discussion. Two circumstances, however, attending this "goodwill" meeting may be con-

sidered significant, and, perhaps, of some little value to the cause of world amity at this time. One is that the Russian Church leaders were permitted by Soviet authorities to invite a number of Western religious leaders to Moscow and exchange views on world problems with them; it could not have happened, at least in this open-handed way, during the Stalin regime. The other, as far as reports indicate, is that no political restriction was placed on probable subjects for discussion. In the past, all religious conferences in Moscow were under the direct domination of Government officials.

Subtle Diplomacy

Secretary of State Dulles has been trying his hand at subtle diplomacy again, this time in New Delhi, where he tried to convince Prime Minister Nehru that relations between the United States and India are good and getting better all the time. This was in direct opposition to views held by Mr. Nehru who has been under the impression that the United States was encouraging Pakistan in the feud with India over the future of Kashmir. This impression was given a boost, an unintentional one no doubt, at the SEATO meeting in Karachi, where the delegates, Mr. Dulles included, supported Pakistan's demand for a plebiscite in the disputed territory, the very thing that Mr. Nehru does not want at the present time, and virtually upheld Pakistan's claim to sovereignty over Kashmir, although not in any written agreement.

In his talks with Mr. Nehru, Mr. Dulles made light of this SEATO decision, and especially his part in it. He assured the Indian leader that the decision does not mean that the United States would support Pakistan in any attempt to take the territory by force. "If Pakistan did that", he said, "there would be a quick end to the friendly relations now existing between that country and the United States, and we would be on India's side before the United Nations".

What does all this mean? No one—except perhaps Mr. Dulles—can say. All things considered, however, it may be just as well for Mr. Dulles that he visited Pakistan before and not after his trip to New Delhi. Otherwise, he would have had to explain the whole thing over again and in an entirely different tone; and there must be times when even a Secretary of State runs out of diplomatic tricks.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Greece has asked the U. N. General Assembly to take up the Cyprus question at its next general meeting in November. Since no request was made for a special meeting, it may be that Greek officials are not so worried about the matter as they pretend to be.

The fire tragedy at Lenox, Mass. in which three Jesuit priests and one lay brother lost their lives has an ironic as well as a sad angle to it. It occurred in the midst of a national campaign for funds to replace the old monastery, where the Jesuits lived, with a fireproof building.

King's County cattlemen certainly can be proud of their record with respect to disease-free herds. Out of more than 21,000 head tested for tuberculosis and 13,000 tested for bang's disease, only 4 diseased animals were discovered. This is a remarkable showing. No doubt, every effort will be made to keep it that way.

"Lord Selkirk" is a fitting name for the new Wood Islands ferry, if only to remind Maritimers of the great part played by that Scottish nobleman in the settlement of this part of Canada. Incidentally, it might help to enlighten the Manitobans who have been under the delusion that Lord Selkirk's pioneering work was confined to that Western region.

Although it has been a hard winter in the Atlantic region, evidently the ice in the St. Lawrence is not expected to cause any undue delay in the reopening of navigation. Indeed, Montreal port officials are counting on its being reopened before the end of March. If it should come before March 30, it will set a record. An Egyptian vessel is said to be among the expected early arrivals—looking for more planes, no doubt.



HOW MUCH ACTUAL CUTTING IN STORE?

PUBLIC FORUM

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

CAUSEWAY QUESTIONS

Sir.—Now that the causeway project has again been revived, perhaps you may grant me a little space for a few remarks on the matter. First of all allow me to say that if the causeway can be built and maintained in a good condition for daily use, it will no doubt be of great economic value to all residents of these Atlantic Provinces. But it would be too bad if all foreseeable hazards against the project were not looked into very closely before it was built. Now I think it was when the causeway was discussed in the Provincial Legislature in 1944, that it was the late Harry Francis, of Fortune Bridge, who mentioned the possibility of frozen spray coating the top of the causeway with ice on stormy days, before the board ice would form in the late fall, and to my mind this is still a very important question, and so far I have not seen it mentioned in all that has been printed about the causeway in the last few weeks. Anyone who has lived along a rocky shore knows how high the spray will come during a severe storm, and if the temperature is at a certain level the spray will coat every thing with ice.

Another point is that the natural distance out and this naturally modifies the waves somewhat. But what would be the effect of high waves striking on a solid obstacle like the causeway in deep, cold water? How high would the spray be?

Another possible hazard is drifting pack ice. People say that board ice will form on both sides of the causeway, and so it will and in a very cold winter there will be very heavy ice form on both sides, possibly for miles; but the day will come every spring when the board ice will be all broken in huge cakes, and if a heavy blow should come, how high would it pile?

The Guardian carried a news item a few days ago telling that pack ice had piled forty feet high somewhere in Europe. Would the proposed slope of the causeway sides allow this pack ice to go up over it, when there is such bold water to contend with?

I am, Sir, etc.,
JUST WONDERING
Dundas Centre.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(March 20, 1931)
At a special meeting of the City Council held last evening, a resolution was passed accepting with certain amendments the proposition of Dr. W. E. Woodhouse, for the co-operation of the City and Provincial Boards of Health and the Red Cross Society.

At the Lampton fur sales in London, England, held during February, 27,286 skins were offered. The highest price paid for one skin was \$275.00 for a fine quality 3-4 silver. Fine skins declined 25 per cent, and at the decline the demand was quite strong. Prices are likely to be maintained at the coming sale.

During a conference in Ottawa yesterday the two railway presidents, E. W. Beatty of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Sir Henry Thornton of the Canadian National Railways, expressed the desire of their systems to use Canadian coal wherever possible.

TEN YEARS AGO
(March 20, 1946)
Mr. W. A. Brown, Chief of the Poultry Marketing and Production Services, has returned from England with excellent news for poultry flock owners. Large contracts are being negotiated with England for the supplying of Canadian eggs and dressed poultry. With these facts, it would appear that there is definite room for the expansion of the P.E.I. poultry industry.

The first parliament of Upper Canada met in September, 1792, at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

Kremlin Colleagues On Hot Seat

By Tom Whittney
Associated Press, New York

One question raised in Russian minds by Nikita Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin is what the present Communist party chief and his Kremlin colleagues were doing while Stalin terrorized the Soviet Union.

The political future of the present Soviet leaders possibly depends on the skill with which they answer this and on the ultimate conclusion which the Russian people reach.

Khrushchev has already made an effort to sidestep this question by declaring that he and Stalin's other subordinates were in fear of their lives.

But it's not certain that the Russian people will accept this as a completely satisfactory explanation.

KEY QUESTION
A key question is whether Soviet citizens may not, as a result of the revelations of Stalin's crimes and blunders, come to a more or less unanimous conclusion that they'd prefer to be ruled by people less intimately associated with the old dictator.

Perhaps Russians inside and outside the Communist party will begin to look to Soviet army leaders for unsullied non-Stalinist guidance.

Never has the Soviet army's star stood so high. Marshal Georgi Zhukov and other Red army leaders, as most Russians understand things, did not do Stalin's dirty work. That was the job of such party leaders as Khrushchev, Nikolai Malenkov, V. M. Molotov, Nikolai Bulganin, Anastas Mikoyan and the rest of Stalin's politburo.

It was the army which suffered from Stalin's despotism. Zhukov and other army marshals undoubtedly are loyal to the

present Soviet leadership. But should a wave of feeling sweep U.S.S.R. demanding that they take over, would they resist it?

FEEL SAFE

The present Kremlin leaders apparently feel that the fact they were Stalin's apostles will be forgotten by Russians because of what they have done in the last three years to prove they were unwilling apostles.

Possibly they are right. But conceivably they went a step too far. By admitting that crimes were committed, they may have convicted themselves irrevocably in the Russian public mind as accomplices.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

NEPHROSIS VICTIMS MOSTLY VERY YOUNG

Although nephrosis is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood, relatively little is known about it. We don't know the cause, we have no sure cure, and the outcome in any one patient is completely unpredictable. There is not much publicity given the disease, either, although about half of the victims die.

STRIKES CHILDREN

Nephrosis usually strikes children between the ages of one and a half and three and a half years. Infants and older children, even adults, sometimes are victims.

Boys are affected more frequently than girls. The disease attacks all races and occurs in all climates, too. We have no evidence that it is hereditary.

While various body functions are affected, the primary concern is for the disturbed kidney function. Generally, the disease runs for several years. But sudden remissions and recovery sometimes occur. We don't know why.

FOLLOWING INFECTIONS

Nephrosis sometimes follows infections elsewhere in the body, such as diphtheria, tuberculosis, pneumonia and syphilis. It begins gradually, sometimes with a period of weeks or months in which the victim feels listless and is in vague ill health.

The first indication of childhood nephrosis usually is a swelling around the eyes, especially in the morning. Frequently the puffiness disappears by afternoon. At this stage it is difficult to detect the disease. Unless a urine examination is made, a doctor might not even suspect nephrosis.

The swelling increases as the illness progresses, becoming evident in the feet and abdomen. Eventually, the entire body becomes swollen.

UNEVEN COURSE

Nephrosis does not run an even course. The swelling may disappear only to return again after a lapse of a few days, weeks or even months.

Even blood and urine tests may give perfectly normal results during these periods of remission. But recurrences are negative for as long as six months, however, the victim probably is cured.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A Reader: Why are persons with ulcers in most cases forbidden to drink and smoke?

Answer: Since smoking and the drinking of alcoholic beverages act as a stimulant for the secretions of hydrochloric acid and other digestive juices, they may perpetuate and even increase the symptoms of the ulcer.

NOTES BY THE WAY

If you don't pay your income tax on time you are subject to a fine of six percent interest, but no matter how far ahead of time you kick in you don't even get a "thank you" from the department. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Our private statistician reports that the average wife wastes four months of her life asking her husband what he wants for dinner. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

A United States dermatologist writes that filing hair is blamed on water. "It's not the water," he said. "It's too much alcohol, especially too much bad whiskey and brandy." That should make many baldheaded totalitarians mad, and many a guzzler with a thick thatch of hair feel smug. —Fort William Times.

Probably the most effective step which could be taken for greater electrical safety would be to make higher standards obligatory. Inspectors are not enough for they suffer under a double disadvantage: first, it is entirely legal to sell a house whose wiring is in adequate in terms of modern demands; and second, it is physically impossible to check constantly the use or abuse of electrical systems in all homes in the country. —Edmonton Journal.

The tragedy of our times—and let us make no mistake, these are tragic days—lies in the mistaken philosophy that happiness lies in a multitude of possessions that save labor and provide effortless amusement. As a result, labor has lost its dignity and possessions are in real value. Gone, too, is the pride in a job well done and the satisfaction that comes from having created something, however simple. —Hamilton Spectator.

A bill has been given first reading in the Alberta Legislature to allow municipal districts to hire a "weather modifier" if two-thirds of the ratepayers affected vote in favor of the idea. If it ever forms part of the provincial statutes it can mean a bucketful of trouble for everybody concerned, especially for those who hired the modern rain-maker. Or on a broader basis, what would Saskatchewan or Manitoba do if they felt that Alberta was milking the clouds of all their moisture by artificial means when it was equally badly needed there? Or the Americans, if they suspected that weather manipulations in Canada were having an adverse effect on any part of their economy? —Calgary Herald.

Announcement that the subject of slavery is to come before the United Nations General Assembly may come as a surprise to many people who believed that it has ceased to exist a long time ago, but slavery is still a big business in Arab lands, with Mecca, the holy city of the Mohammedan world, as the chief market place. The unholy traffic is carried on there and is a recognized business. The French embassy at Jidda, Saudi Arabia, recently reported that large numbers of would-be pilgrims to the shrine of Mahomet were offered transportation from the French Camerons to Mecca, but when they got there they were sold in the slave market. —Globe and Mail.

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