

Federal Building Tenders

The Legislative Assembly in its closing hours is pretty well overshadowed by the prospect of a new Federal Building for Charlottetown. The long promised and delayed structure seems to be of a description that makes it well worth waiting for, its estimated cost being in the vicinity of three and one half million dollars.

The need for such a structure has been imperative for many years. The task of integrating the activities of the many departments and branches in the Island capital must have been the despair of administrators as going from office to distant office in a complicated matter has been a wearing chore for the public.

The erection of this building, together with other construction both public and private, will mean a good deal to labour and to business generally. The heavy building programme will do much to offset any slackness resulting from the smaller amount of money in circulation attributable to the low price of potatoes during the past winter. The building too will add to the appearance of the city and will no doubt influence other construction and reconstruction.

A Patchwork Affair

The mutilated form in which the Legislature finally adopted the report of the Education Committee presented another example of disregard of parliamentary rules and procedure. As previously pointed out, the report was irregular in being presented as "an amalgamation of opinions" rather than as a majority report, and no time should have been wasted in discussing it on its merits. Since it was discussed, however, it should either have been adopted or rejected in its entirety.

This question arose in the House of Commons some years ago, and the then Speaker, Hon. E. N. Rhodes, in accordance with the rules declared a motion for amendment out of order. "When a motion is made for the adoption of the report of a committee," he said, "it is competent for the House to adopt it, to reject it, or to refer it back to the committee with or without instructions. Or, a motion may be made for the six months' hoist."

Perhaps the latter procedure would have been the most suitable in this case. At any rate, our lawmakers should be the first to set an example of adherence to the rules governing their deliberations.

U. S. Tariff Curbs

The United States has decided to curtail sharply its imports of Canadian rye for the balance of the present crop marketing year and for the whole of the year 1954-55. Rye is much less important to Canada's economy than several other grains, but it is by no means insignificant.

The rye episode, says the Ottawa Citizen, is disturbing chiefly because it marks a continuation of a restrictive policy embarked on by Washington even before the present administration took office. It follows the imposition of similar curbs on the movement of dairy products into the U. S., an action particularly affecting Canadian cheddar cheese and dried milk. It is of the same order as a threat to clamp import quotas on oats—a fairly substantial item in Canadian trade with the U. S. Those restrictions were not imposed simply because the Canadian government yielded to pressure and adopted a "voluntary" reduction in shipments; Canada agreed in effect to cut in half its oats exports to the U. S. for an approximately 10-month period ending next October. By its action in the matter of oats, Ottawa may have hoped to persuade Washington to mend its ways, trade-wise. This new development concerning rye does not give much ground for optimism. There is no more reason to believe now than there was when Canada cut back its shipment of oats that this grain will be given more generous treatment when the time comes next fall to review the position.

On the contrary, the U. S. government appears committed to a policy, for an indefinite period, of restricting imports of certain products—mainly agricultural—which are surplus in the United States.

There have been rumors that barley may be next in line. The fact that these restrictive measures run completely counter to an international pact, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, has made little or no difference to American policy.

There are other products of interest to Canada that are now under study by the U. S. Tariff Commission, says The Citizen. These include ground fish fillets, and lead and zinc. The Commission has power to recommend to the President either quantitative restrictions or increased tariffs in the case of any product referred to it. What will happen with these particular items is difficult to forecast.

For A Greater Canada

That by 1980 Canada will have a culture and an outlook on life that will be the envy of the world is the prediction of Immigration Minister W. E. Harris, basing his forecast on the assumption that this country's population will be between 25,000,000 and 30,000,000 by that time.

The minister's expectations, of numbers at least, seem modest and there is no reason why Canada should not more than double her population in a quarter of a century. Certainly we can absorb large numbers much more readily today than even a few years ago and as further development takes place the present rate of immigration will be hopelessly inadequate to supply the demand for strong arms and keen brains to convert our resources into wealth.

It is by no means insignificant that periods of prosperity and rapid immigration coincide. Every immigrant and his family add to the demand for goods and services of every kind. He also contributes to national production so that a healthy flow of immigrants is reflected in the general prosperity.

This is by no means the only value of immigration. As indicated by the minister our culture is enriched by receiving those who can transplant the arts and crafts of old lands into the new and integrate them into our common cultural tradition.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 6th Sunday in Lent; Palm Sunday.

Canada has trained 2,682 aircrew from NATO and there are now 950 in training here, according to a return tabled in the Commons.

Revision of the Legislature's rules of order will apparently not be undertaken this session. It is to be hoped that the committee charged with the task of revising the rules will have its life extended until the House is again summoned.

Edmonton's proposed city hall has a windowless council chamber jutting out from the second floor and supported by 12-foot slits which stand on a terrace. The council apparently is not taking any chances on the Saskatchewan River behaving like the Red and Assiniboine a few years ago.

All airlines are safety conscious but without making insidious distinctions it may be said that T.C.A. is particularly so. Despite three crashes in seventeen years the company's safety record is such that since 1947 a passenger would fly an average of more than 5,000,000 miles before being expected to be in a crash.

William Hazlitt, English author, was born this date 1788. Successively a Unitarian minister, painter and lecturer, he determined to become a writer and soon reached the front rank amongst contemporary critics. When unprejudiced, that is when he did not know the author, his judgment was usually sound and generally well expressed. His writings include, "Characters of Shakespeare's Plays" and "The Plain Speaker."

Easter Sunday will be April 18th. Easter falls on one of 35 days, March 22-April 25, being the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after the 21st of March. According to this it would this year be celebrated on April 25. The "full moon" referred to, however, is a hypothetical moon whose lunations consist of 29 and 30 days alternately and this Paschal Moon will be full on April 17 although the moon in the heavens will not be full until the 18th.

Details of a new fighter plane cannon with a "devastating power" have been given by Minister of Supply Duncan Sandys after a visit to Vickers Armstrong factory. The new weapon, a 30 millimetre Aden cannon, will be the armament of Swifts, Britain's first swept-wing service fighters. With this powerful cannon, the Swift will be capable of bringing to bear against an enemy aircraft eight times more high explosives than was possible with earlier types of guns.



School is Out!

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.

"NEATBY FORTITUDE"

Sir,—It is difficult to determine which of the two expressions: "Dahlhaus Sage" or "Neatby fortitude" bothered Mr. Wees the more. He seemed to be thrown into "competition against himself." However, in specifying the area covered by Dr. Bennett's fame, he might have included New Zealand where the Professor was born and, I am sure, as held in high esteem. Anyway, the Fredericton scribe identified his pedagogical faith when he made the gratuitous assertion: "Neatby fortitude reveals itself merely as strong prejudice."

I am, Sir, etc. W. J. ENRIGHT, Manchester, N. H.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

KING'S COUNTY VISITED

From the Royal Gazette, Aug. 29, 1837: "His Excellency Sir Charles and Lady Mary Fitzroy, accompanied by Mr. Haviand, left town on Tuesday last on a visit to Georgetown and its neighbourhood, from whence they returned on Friday. His Excellency and suite crossed the harbour of Three Rivers to St. Andrew's Point, stopping at Wightman's on Wednesday they visited the flourishing settlements of Murray Harbour and White Sands, and as the day proved extremely favourable for the purpose, it was arranged that the party should leave Wightman's in an open boat, and in this manner proceed round the coast to Murray Harbour, returning to Wightman's by land through Lots 63, 61 and 50.

"This mode of conveyance afforded His Excellency and Lady Mary the only good opportunity of viewing with advantage the large and extensive tracts of cultivation which this fertile part of the coast exhibited for almost the whole distance, as the highroad in general runs through the rear of those farms which border upon the sea shore.

"Upon reaching Murray Harbour, His Excellency was greeted with the firing of cannon, a display of flags hoisted at the different houses, and other demonstrations of respect, this being the first time the settlement had been honoured with the presence of a Governor. His Excellency and Lady Mary were greeted on landing by James Richards, Esq., John W. LeLacheur, Esq., and most of the heads of families from the neighbouring settlements, and conducted by them to the house of Mr. Henry Marquand, where a substantial cold repast was provided by the inhabitants. His Excellency was then presented with a congratulatory address, embodying the feelings of the settlers upon the occasion.

"After partaking of refreshment, and a carriage having been prepared for the accommodation of His Excellency and Lady Mary, the party continued on their route to White Sands, accompanied by a numerous cavalcade on horseback.

"Upon witnessing the fertile and extensive settlements which lay in this direction, His Excellency was not less pleased than surprised, and could not refrain from expressing his opinion that their extent of cultivation and flourishing appearance equalled, if they did not surpass, those of any settlement which he had yet visited. The party returned to Murray Harbour by the road leading to Messrs. Richards' shipyard, when His Excellency, accompanied by the builder, inspected a fine vessel of 550 tons, nearly ready to be launched.

"His Excellency and suite embarked here for the eastern side of the harbour, and as the boat left the shore the strand resounded with the deafening cheers of the assembled people. Carriages which had been sent from Wightman's awaited them upon landing, where also His Excellency was received in the warmest manner by a numerous assemblage of the settlers living on that side of Murray Harbour, and escorted by them to the house of Mr. Thomas Owen, where an address was presented upon behalf of the settlement. After partaking of some refreshment, the party proceeded on their return to Wightman's.

Weapons Of Extermination

(Lewis Mumford in the New York Times)

The power of the hydrogen bomb has, it is plain, given pause even to the leaders of our Government. Their very hesitation to give away the facts in itself gives away the facts. Under what mandate, then, do they continue to hold as secret the results we may expect from the use of weapons of extermination—

not merely on our own cities and people but on all living organisms; not merely on our present lives but on the lives of countless generations to come? Are our leaders afraid that when the truth is known our devotion to the perfection of scientific weapons of total destruction and extermination will turn out to be a profoundly irrational one; repulsive to morally, dangerous to national security, inimical to life?

Do they suspect that the American people are still sane enough to halt the blind automatism that continues, in the face of Soviet Russia's equal scientific powers, to produce these fatal weapons? Do they fear that their fellow-countrymen may well doubt the usefulness of instruments which, under the guise of deterring an aggressor or insuring a cheap victory, might incidentally destroy the

whole fabric of civilization and threaten the very existence of the human race? Our secret weapons of extermination have been produced under conditions that have favored irresponsible censorship and shortsighted political and military judgments. Under the protection of secrecy a succession of fatal errors has been made, primarily as the result (since 1942) of our accepting total extermination as a method of warfare. These errors have been compounded by our counting upon such dehumanized methods to preserve peace and security.

In turn, our very need for secrecy in an abortive effort to monopolize technical and scientific knowledge, has produced pathological symptoms in the whole body politic; fear, suspicion, non-cooperation, hostility to critical judgment, above all delusions of power based on fantasies of unlimited extermination, as the only possible answer to the political threat of Soviet Russia. But demoralized men cannot be counted upon to control such automatic instruments of demoralization.

At a fatal moment our self-induced fears may produce the inevitable and irrevocable holocaust a step to which we have given us reason to dread. Only courage and intelligence of the highest order, backed by open discussion, will give us the strength to turn back from the suicidal path we have blindly followed since 1942.

Are there not enough Americans still possessed of their sanity to call a stop to these irrational decisions which are automatically bringing us close to a total catastrophe?

There are many alternative courses to the policy to which we have committed ourselves, practically without debate. The worst of all these alternatives, submission to Communist totalitarianism, would still be far wiser than the final destruction of civilization.

As for the best of these alternatives, a policy of working firmly toward justice and cooperation, and free intercourse with all other peoples, in the faith that love begets love as surely as hatred begets hatred—would, in all probability, be the one instrument capable of piercing the strong political armor of our present enemies.

Once the facts of our policy of total extermination are publicly canvassed, and the final outcome, mass suicide, is faced, I believe that the American people are still sane enough to come to a wiser decision than our Government has yet made. They will realize that retaliation is not protection; that total extermination of both sides is not victory; that a constant state of morbid fear, suspicion and hatred is not security; that, in short, what seems like unlimited power has become impotence.

In the name of sanity let our Government now pause and seek the counsel of sane men; men who

DRIVING

UPON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY IS A PRIVILEGE AS WELL AS A LEGAL RIGHT

We owe it to ourselves and to the other driver to have our cars in good working condition; to drive at moderate speed; to observe all traffic rules and to DRIVE CAREFULLY.

This aim combined with adequate Insurance Cover will bring relief from anxiety in many Canadian homes.

HYNDMAN & CO. LTD.

Insurance Since 1872.

Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN - SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE

Agents throughout the Province

The Passing Scene

By Observer EAST AND WEST

Perhaps the most difficult office in the Free World today is that occupied by Mr. Dulles, United States Secretary of State. No foreign minister has an easy time of it and each one must be under terrific physical and mental strain; but Mr. Dulles is labouring under special difficulties for two reasons: (1) he seems to make more policy speeches than any of the others, (2) he speaks for the nation which by common consent and approval is taking the lead in international affairs; as everyone knows leadership is always vulnerable to criticism.

Mr. Dulles has many critics, some of whom are found in his own country and even in his own Republican Party, but it is safe to say that none of them would care to be in his shoes at the moment. The pressure under which he is obliged to work must be tremendous and when, as often happens, his words are misunderstood and misinterpreted, the strain must be well-nigh unbearable.

Mr. Dulles' recent speech in which he called for "united action" against any further spread of Communism in Asia has been subjected to a fair amount of criticism, especially in that part of the world which for the time being appears to be in most danger. A glance at the map shows that, should Indo-China be permitted to fall into Communist hands, only Thailand, a weak and poverty stricken country, and Burma, which is very little better, would stand between India and a huge Communist empire led by China.

One would suppose that it would be India's advantage to help, if need be, in the defence of Indo-China with vigor and determination. Strangely, according to reports from India, Mr. Dulles' "united action" speech is receiving less favourable attention there than anywhere. Some Indian newspapers have gone so far as to suggest that the speech is one more indication of the American desire to control Indian foreign policy. Mr. Nehru himself is said to see in it an implied "threat" to his neutrality for India. He also appears to cling to the view that Communist uprising in Indo-China is really an "independence" movement with no aggressive designs on any other country. This is exactly what Communist propagandists have been saying all along; they must be overjoyed to hear that it has been received so well by Indian Government officials.

Indian irritation over American aid to neighbouring Pakistan— which some Far Eastern experts believe may yet develop into something extremely serious—is another part of this seemingly unrealistic Indian view. The Indians will take all the economic assistance—their chief need—they can get from the United States, but they are terribly angered by Pakistan's acceptance of military support, which happens to be that country's chief need at the moment.

There has been any hint that Mr. Nehru is in any way sympathetic to the Communist theory of Government; theoretically, at any rate, his speeches indicate that he is anxious to keep India on friendly terms with the West. It must be remembered,

have not participated in the errors we have made and are not committed, out of pride, to defending them. Let us cease all further experiments with even more horrifying weapons of destruction, lest our own self-induced fears further upset our mental balance.

Let us all, as responsible citizens, not the cowed subjects of an all-wise state, weigh the alternatives and canvass new lines of approach to the problems of power and peace. Let us deal with our own massive sins and errors as a step toward establishing firm relations of confidence with the rest of mankind. And let us, first of all, have the courage to speak up on behalf of humanity, on behalf of civilization, on behalf of life itself against the methodology of barbarism to which we are now committed.

If as a nation we have become mad, it is time for the world to take note of that madness. If we are still humane and sane, then it is time for the powerful voice of sanity to be heard once more in our land.

Lewis Mumford, America, N. Y., March 19, 1954

however, that India is a new sovereign nation and, quite naturally, intensely jealous of her right to self-determination. It is understandable, too that a country which had been under Western domination for so long, and is now free, will be constantly on the watch for the slightest sign of interference in its internal affairs.

There is no doubt that Mr. Nehru's position is that his Government needs no advice, however good and benevolent it may be from the Government of any other Power. Recent reports seem to indicate that many highly placed Indian officials, probably including Mr. Nehru himself, sensed in Mr. Dulles' speech a faint trace of "Indian domination." To any in the Western world "this view is inexplicable; it even takes on the character of absurdity. But the Eastern mind (there is an Eastern mind and there is a Western mind, whatever the One World enthusiasts may say) always has been and is today suspicious of Western designs and purposes.

Whether that suspicion is stronger than its dislike of communism—where this dislike is at all apparent, as in the case of India—is a question which we may be sure is causing a lot of anxiety in Western councils. It is to be hoped that before it is too late India and other Asiatic countries which thus far have managed to hold on to political freedom will cast their lot with Western democracy; but it would be foolish to expect anything but their own national interest, as they see it, not necessarily as such an alliance about.

The more or less common political and social traditions and customs which help to foster friendly relations among people of the United States, Canada, Britain and most of Western Europe, even when they disagree on methods and procedures, clearly have little or no meaning to Eastern minds. For the present, at least, there are plenty of signs that for the Asiatic peoples, including the non-Communists, anti-Western sentiments are still very strong.

The Poet's Corner

FROM MEMORIES

Out of the Night we come, and we shall go Back to the Night; and that is all we know! Yet clinging to us are deep mystic things, Vague dreams and visions, dim remembrings And whispers low that tell us we have known Some vanished glory, and stranger beauties flow That are not of the dust from which we climb Up to the kingly pinnacles of Time, Ever by familiar doorways are we borne, And old to us how often seems a morn!

—Arthur Stringer

The Age Old Story

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

HIGHEST RANK

The title of Field Marshal, highest rank in the British Army, was introduced by King George II in 1736.

FOR THE BEST IN

Cameras AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

See TAYLOR'S JEWELLERS CHARLOTTETOWN

SOLE HONORABLE DEALERS P. E. I.

SPRING SALE

on the best in

USED TRUCKS

- 1951 FORD 1-2 Ton ..... \$1100.00
1950 DODGE 3-4 Ton ..... \$800.00
1947 FORD 1-2 Ton ..... \$575.00
1951 GMC 1-2 Ton ..... \$1050.00
1948 CHEV. SEDAN DELIVERY .. \$700.00
1951 CHEV. 1-2 Ton ..... \$1250.00
1951 CHEV. 1-2 Ton ..... \$1050.00
1950 CHEV. 1-2 Ton ..... \$950.00

HORNE MOTORS LTD.