

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, FEB. 4, 1952

Morality And The Law

Despatches from Washington have been replete in past weeks with reports of corruption in high places. Influence, it seems, has become a marketable commodity peddled by professionals in the art of securing favors from the bureaucratic top brass.

It is significant that few of those called upon the carpet in Washington and elsewhere have been guilty of actual violation of the law. Their wrongdoing is ethical rather than legal.

In a day and age when people tend to substitute the Criminal Code for the Ten Commandments as the criterion for distinguishing between right and wrong, corruption and decay follow as a matter of course.

Only One "Opposition"

The Ottawa Journal complains of news broadcasters and commentators continually misunderstanding elementary matters in our parliamentary setup.

There are no "Opposition parties" and no "main Opposition party", points out the Journal. There is only the Opposition — His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, recognized by well-defined practice as a part of our parliamentary system.

Our Eccentric Dollar

In September, 1950, Americans could buy a Canadian dollar for about 90 cents of U.S. money. Now it's a U.S. dollar for a Canadian dollar.

"Now anybody of nodding acquaintance with the theories of the modern money managers knows that currencies must be controlled or else things will go to pot", says the publication.

Journal, "it would not only be an odd but an ironic coincidence if the poor little old Canadian dollar in the hands of all of those economic heretics should, as it is very likely to do, become more valuable than the mighty U.S. dollar.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All too often we get our knowledge of distant lands because of wars and other troubles. It is refreshing to follow the more cheerful news of Royal travels.

Name calling has already gone far and low in the United States Presidential election. By the time ten months are up there will be few insults left to hurl.

The British Parliament is now faced with the problem of killing its free doctoring and prescription, or killing the national credit and facing bankruptcy. More austerity will result either way.

Living in an agricultural community is no guarantee of adequate meals for good health. Only by taking a keen interest in scientific nutrition can we be sure that our eating habits are satisfactory.

The children in Cape Breton are enjoying an unexpected pre-Lent holiday as the result of the strike of 243 rural and village teachers.

After months of steadily deteriorating relations between Britain and Egypt the tide seems to have turned. It is too much to expect a sudden settlement of all difficulties but at any rate there seems to be a will to agree.

The decline in the value of fish landed in this Province in 1951 was almost entirely because of the lower catch of lobsters. In future there should be a decided increase in the total as the use of draggers is expanded.

Cape Breton's strike of school teachers seeking higher pay is unfortunate but it may focus attention on a situation which is national in scope, or even wider.

An estimated 700,000 foreign visitors went to Britain during 1951 compared with 603,000 in the year before. They contributed \$280 million to Britain's national economy against \$214 million in 1950.

William Harrison Ainsworth, historical novelist, was born this date 1805. He was to have followed his father's profession of solicitor, but in London he came to know many literary and stage personalities and eventually gave up law for journalism and literature.

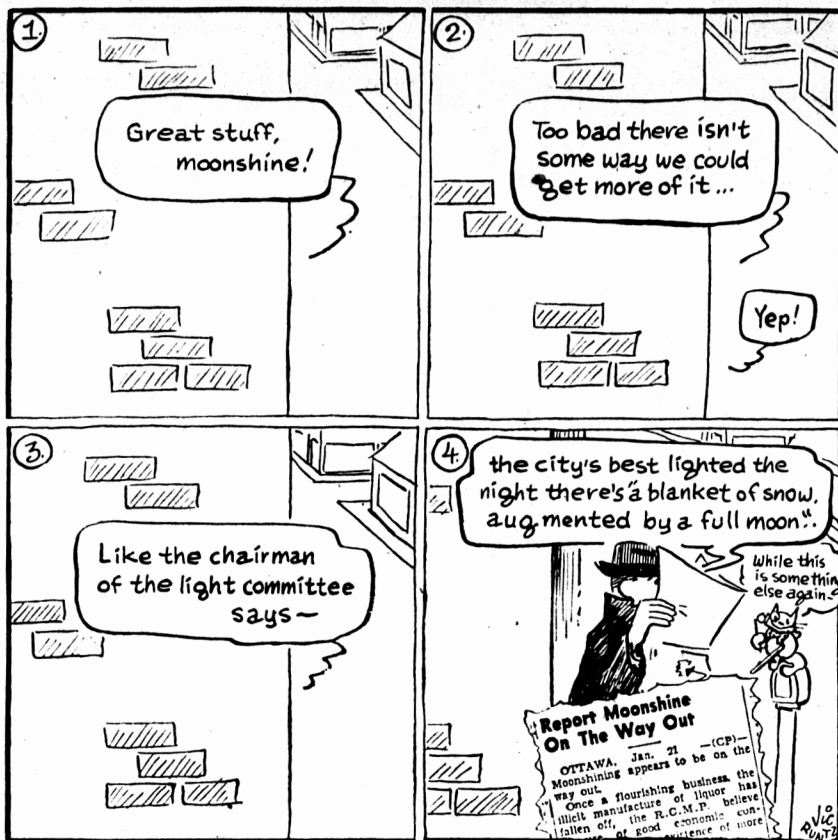
The Provincial Marketing Act dispute will return a second time to the Supreme Court at Ottawa, on this occasion as an appeal. To avoid a double hearing, the local Supreme Court previously allowed the parties concerned to take the case direct to Ottawa, but the Supreme Court there considered this to be "passing the buck", and turned thumbs down.

The first "atomic surname" — "Mr. Meson" — has been chosen by a naturalized British subject — an electronics technician who thought he would take a name "in keeping with the atomic age."

Austerity leads to a reduction of drunkenness. Despite a population increase in the "over-15" category of from 32.7 million in 1938 to 34.3 million in 1950, incidence of drunkenness in the same period fell considerably in England and Wales.

Smart Canadian-British collaboration. Scottish Airlines carry almost daily samples of glass from Canadian furnaces for analysis at the St. Helens (Lancashire) laboratories of a U. K. firm.

For Brighter Nights



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.

SEEKING PEN-FRIENDS

Sir,—I would very much like to have pen-friends in Prince Edward Island as writing and making friends overseas is my most favourite hobby.

My name is Barbara Lawson and I am 20 years of age. I am willing to correspond with both girls and boys my own age or older. Pen-friends photography, music, books and travel are my hobbies.

It would be most appreciated if you could help me in this matter. I am, Sir, etc. (Miss) BARBARA LAWSON c/o G.P.O. Adelaide, S.A., Australia

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Sir,—Another year has passed and again we wish to thank you and the staff of The Guardian, for your splendid co-operation in presenting "Salada" advertising to the public.

This year marks our 60th anniversary which is almost like saying the 60th year we have used the newspapers of Canada for we went into the newspapers very soon after we started marketing our tea.

From the outset we had two basic ideas, the first was to give the finest quality of tea we could, and the second to advertise it as widely as our purse would permit, and the years have vindicated the policy.

The latest proof of this is the new building we are erecting in the Town of Mount Royal, Quebec, with a floor space of 125,000 square feet. It will be one of the most modern tea buildings in the world with the whole process of blending, packing and shipping carried out on one floor.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge once again the fine and courteous co-operation we have had from the newspapers.

We are, Sir, etc. SALADA TEA COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED E. F. MacKEEN, Montreal, Feb. 1, 1952.

"STAY ON THE FARM" MOVEMENT

Sir,—The somewhat frenzied efforts of the moment, to have rural youth take greater interest in farming activities and to embrace the opportunities offered by agriculture as a means of livelihood, are interesting and at least serve as a sort of relieving topic of discussion with agricultural promoters of all description, as other themes have now become somewhat threadbare through long usage and are about ready for the discard.

It can hardly be claimed it had its origin in any great concern for, or desire to improve, the lot of rural youth, but is based on something rather more mundane. The great problem in rural Prince Edward Island is that its productive farms are greatly undermanned and labor even when available, is too costly.

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The Age-Old Story

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. . . . But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or that thou art man, that thou visitest him? . . . Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he hath put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him.

Two or more generations ago the situation was the reverse. There were small farms and large families and the accumulating offspring frequently assumed the proportion of a problem. The oldest members at an early age were encouraged to fend for themselves. In the absence of local opportunity, the boys struck out for the "wilds" where many of them prospered, while others became lost in the maelstrom of an outside world.

While the separation was undoubtedly cause for much parental grief and heartache, yet the departure left in its wake a sense of relief to an overburdened household. The daughters too pursued a course to outside employment, perhaps not so far afield but where a measure of contact could be maintained, yet they too in this way, contributed towards easing the problem of a financially harassed home.

So that is the history of the past and the custom of the years. It is not a simple matter to untangle habits of long duration, introduced as an emergency but through generations of usage have become a permanent fixture in a well established way of life.

Youth—boys and girls—are by nature curious, and migratory by disposition, and only by attainment of objective can they be induced to become permanently located. The lad or lassie who reads, listens and observes, is inclined to become enchanted with scenes beyond the border and sooner or later will decide to explore. Such an infatuation with things abroad has a much stronger appeal to response than anything normally offered as a counter, to remain on the farm.

This has been the predominant experience since, and probably before, the Prodigal Son stumbled his aged father into giving him "the portion of goods that falleth unto me" and announced his intention to hit the high spots for newer and greener fields that appeared in the distance more glamorous.

But it should not be overlooked that the prodigal became disillusioned and returned to the home he had at one time abandoned and there is no record to indicate that he ever again departed. Perhaps herein lies a cue as to how our vacant and undermanned farms can be at least partially adjusted—through the repatriation of our native sons and daughters, many of whom are now in involuntary exile, if we could but see them "afar off" and extend a typical prodigal's welcome.

And it may be—just may be—then, (I pray it may be) . . . if . . . and when . . . He'll say a word for me. Amen. —David Morton.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

A HANDSOME GIG

"On the invitation of the owner we had the pleasure, a few days since, of inspecting a superb, four-oared Gig recently built for Mr. Francis Stanley, Queen Street. The 'Odd Fellow', — for that is her name — is as handsome a piece of workmanship as the most fastidious in such matters could wish to look upon, and reflects the highest credit upon the builders, Messrs. Cogswell and Lord, of this city.

She is 22 feet long, 18 inches deep and 4 feet 4 inches wide. Her timbers are of Quebec oak, her planks, thwarts, etc., of American and Bermuda cedar. Her rocklocks are of solid brass, and she is copper-fastened throughout. Her model is, we think we are safe in saying, unexceptionable. Messrs. Cogswell and Lord, it is said, are now building a small steam tug for Mr. C.W. Hall, of this city.

—The Islander, March 3, 1871

him "the portion of goods that falleth unto me" and announced his intention to hit the high spots for newer and greener fields that appeared in the distance more glamorous.

But it should not be overlooked that the prodigal became disillusioned and returned to the home he had at one time abandoned and there is no record to indicate that he ever again departed. Perhaps herein lies a cue as to how our vacant and undermanned farms can be at least partially adjusted—through the repatriation of our native sons and daughters, many of whom are now in involuntary exile, if we could but see them "afar off" and extend a typical prodigal's welcome.

I am, Sir, etc. J. A. GILLIES

Charlottetown.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIQUOR

Sir,—There are three classes of parents. Class 1 parents are T.T.'s and teach their children that alcoholic liquor is a dangerous drink and should be avoided and teach them why. Free literature along this line is continually coming from the church offices. No. 2 class and the larger one, are indifferent to the problem. They don't drink and they say: "Why bother? My family are not in any danger." Class 3 are not in any danger. They keep liquor in the home and drink moderately, and defend their practice.

Children of class 1 may turn to drink but not likely. They are intelligently fortified against it, both by teaching and example. Children of class 2 are more likely to be caught in the meshes of temptation. Advertising of liquor has become more clever and insistent than ever before. About 10 million dollars are spent by the brewers, here in Canada, annually, in inducing men and women to drink. Then, also, it has become fashionable at weddings and other parties to serve liquor and untaught young people, at parties, are apt to be caught; and it is a matter of statistics that one in ten becomes an alcoholic.

However, it is from the habit of class 3 that most serious consequences follow. Sometimes the family of a drinking father are turned from drink, with disgust and horror; but too often, strange to say, it works the other way. The lax principles of the father opens the gates of temptation to the children. I can name whole communities in this Province that have been debauched by drink traceable to the example of parents, particularly the father. During the last plebiscite campaign, I met the father of a family who said to me: "You might as well save yourself the trouble for all the good it will do." I did not know at the time that he was a member of the moderate drinking party, nor that he had had a ser-

Notes By The Way

Some farmers say that the big machinery is packing the soil and creating a bad undercrust. Others say that in the tracks of the tractor wheels the tallest grain grows. There is a babel of voices. Who knows the truth?—Farmer's Advocate.

Dishwater detergents are asserted to be of marked benefit when used in the diet of turkeys. And served, no doubt, with that soft, creamy lather which really gets into all the awkward places. Yum! Is it good? Brother, with box tops on the side, it's something out of this world. —Hamilton Spectator.

A Huron County farm foreman wants reflectors on the sides of freight cars, to warn motorists.

fous tragedy in his family, due to drink.

All the ingenuity, skill and financial resources of the brewing houses are employed to induce our boys and girls to drink, telling them it is manly and fashionable. "Look," they say, "at Lord Calvert; what a distinguished and noble looking fellow he is and drink from our house has helped to make him so." Parents should counter such mischievous influence, not only by their example, but with positive temperance teaching, not the old-fashioned kind, with hair-raising stories, but with simple scientific facts. Parents are the best of teachers.

If ministers of religion could only realize what a wasteful and mischievous thing alcoholic liquor is, even here in P. E. Island, which is, perhaps, as free from drink as any other part of Canada, they would more often cry out against this evil. I have seen drink use a club, and a cutlass, and a gun, on different occasions, with lethal effect, among heathen people; and here, in this Province, the effect is much the same. I see good reason why Christian ministers, as well as parents, should cry out against this evil.

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

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