

THE GUARDIAN

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'The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink'

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1951

Save Freedom From Its Friends

Legislating for freedom is much like testifying for character. Neither produces altogether satisfactory results and may very easily produce the exact opposite of the effect intended. In countries where freedom has taken strongest root it has grown out of the character of the people themselves, legislation sometimes reflecting that character but sometimes providing what seems like a most improbable framework for real liberty.

The proposed United Nations covenant on human rights is coming in for criticism as being itself a threat to freedom of the press. It is beyond question that the covenant could be so used, as indeed could any such measure.

What it can do, however, is to help people everywhere to acquire an awareness of any infringement on their rights. Then it will depend upon their temper whether the situation will be remedied or not.

There is no form of words which can be substituted for an alert public opinion.

World Production Problem

Farming problems in every country are much the same, and there is the overall picture of world agricultural production in which every farmer is interested. The 18-country Council of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization presents such a picture in a report just issued from Rome, in which the problem of feeding growing populations and simultaneously raising living standards by progressively increased farm production is discussed.

The answer, in the opinion of the Council, lies in achieving these goals: full employment of farm labour; professional training of farmers; improved farm management; emigration to and land settlement in undeveloped areas; increased international investments in agriculture; technical assistance for underdeveloped countries; education to raise the cultural level of farmers in backward areas so they can take full advantage of technical assistance when offered.

In many parts of the world the farmers' main problems are lack of credit facilities, high taxation and the fact that farms are too small to be efficient. The F.A.O. report suggests that governments make scientific plans for the solution of these farm-management problems.

Some progress, it is noted, has been made in the field of international investment. Loans are being increased to underdeveloped countries by the International Bank Reconstruction and Development and the Export-Import Bank. A training centre at Lahore, Pakistan, has been so successful in instructing technicians in planning economic development of agriculture that two more are planned, one in Turkey and another in Chile.

These food production policies under United Nations auspices are of vital importance to future world peace and security. It is only occasionally that they get into the headlines, but the good work is going forward all the time.

American Potato Yearbook

The 1951 edition of the "American Potato Yearbook" has just been received. Edited by John C. Campbell, Rutgers University College of Agriculture, it contains 80 pages of vital information to the potato grower, shipper, dealer and all those with an interest in the potato industry.

Of special significance is the excellent illustrated article on "Trend in Potato Storage Design" by Alfred D. Edgar of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. A new feature in this year's volume is the list of research projects with the names of individuals engaged in conducting research on Irish potatoes. There is also a complete and up-to-date list of more than 100 recent references to potato culture in the United States.

Other interesting items include articles on the origin and history of the potato, potato ring rot, rules and regulations affecting the shipment of seed potatoes, a list of leading United States and Canadian associations engaged in the improvement of the potato industry together with the names of the United States and Canadian seed certification officials. The Yearbook also gives information on how and where to secure helpful brochures and leaflets covering many phases of the potato in-

dustry, as well as much statistical information of value. There are tabulations by states of both seed and table stock production as well as statistics on Canadian and world potato production.

Published by American Potato Yearbook, Westfield, New Jersey, and indorsed by the Potato Association of America, the booklet at \$2.00 is well worth the money to all engaged in the potato industry.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Technical agreement has been reached on drafting regulations regarding Old Age Pensions. Now the Provinces must consider whether they can "raise the wind."

The Maritime Fire Chiefs hit the nail on the head when they declared parents who leave their children at home unprotected are criminals; they are so, whether a fire breaks out or not.

If it doesn't it should. The Festival of Britain exhibit illustrating the development of the fur trade from the time of Charles II should certainly have a corner devoted to the development of the black and silver-black fox on this Island.

Islanders abroad are having three special opportunities for revisiting their former homes this year—Festive Week, "Herring Choker Special", and Old Home Week. The last is longest established, thanks to the enterprise and initiative of the Provincial Exhibition Association.

Notwithstanding Canada is shipping more bacon to the United Kingdom, Britons will have less bacon to go with their scarce eggs after this month. Why, is not stated. The bacon ration will be reduced by one ounce, back to four ounces a person a week from July 29th.

Until this date 1871 commissions in the cavalry and line of the British army were purchased, the prices varying from £450 for an infantry ensigncy to £7,250 for a lieutenant-colonelcy in the Life Guards. The system never applied to the artillery or engineers.

Opening a conference, in London, of the Association for Maternity and Child Welfare, recently, H. R. H. Princess Elizabeth said: "At the beginning of this century 154 babies out of every 1000 died during the first year of their lives. This year the death rate is less than 30 in every 1000."

The "Wrens" will soon be back, recruiting being scheduled to begin on the 23rd. Experience in the Second World War shows how successfully they can take over many naval tasks simplifying one of the greatest headaches of national mobilization—providing the greatest possible firepower with a given population.

The prospects are that the Royal visitors will be here before the third week of October. Princess Elizabeth and the Duke are scheduled to spend four days in the United States as guests of President Truman at the end of their Canadian tour. The pair probably will cross into the United States at Niagara Falls, Oct. 20.

Improvement after improvement has been made at the corner of Great George and Euston so that drivers no longer dread to approach the crossing. With the newly installed traffic lights it should make the full transition from one of the most dangerous to being the safest corner in the City.

Britain's National Sporting Club, after a lapse of more than 12 years, is being revived in premises in Berkeley Street, Mayfair, London, and it is proposed to hold weekly boxing shows. It will be run on lines similar to the old club, except that women guests of members will be admitted. The hall will seat about 500 people.

Good news for Army, Navy and Air Force. Travelling servicemen now will receive 70 cents more a day for meals, bringing their meal allowance to \$6 a day. Before the war a maximum of \$3 daily was allowed. Officers and men on journeys now will be reimbursed for meals at these rates: Breakfast, \$1.65; Luncheon, \$2, and dinner, \$2.35. The rates formerly were \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.

After Korea peace talk will it be Soviet? Evidently Moscow is showing signs of renewing friendship with the United Nations in general, and Great Britain in particular. A year ago, indeed six months ago, a Moscow newspaper publishing a complimentary article on England or the U. S. A. would have been suspected by the Kremlin, and its editor made to walk the plank. A great deal more than meets the eye is involved in Prime Minister Attlee's forthcoming visit to Washington.

No Court Of Appeal



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.

"A PROPHET WITHOUT HONOR?"

Sir,—The Prince Edward Island Government sponsors a physical fitness program for the youth of the Province. Much publicity has been given its varied and device accomplishments.

On Sunday, July 15th, Miss Evelyn Henry of Charlottetown became the first person to swim Northumberland Strait. So far, she has received only passing mention in the press and on the radio, and it would seem that her daring venture is to remain "unhonored and unsung."

In view of the publicity given those who have attempted to swim the English Channel, publicity that was accorded those who failed as well as those who succeeded, I feel that some concrete expression of the appreciation of the Province should be made.

I am Sir, etc. DOUGLAS BELL, Carleton, July 17th.

TRAIN-HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS

Sir,—The people have been shocked by the terrible fatalities that have occurred on our highways quite recently. With your permission we will take a retrospective view of our highway traffic. We had our highway long before the P. E. I. railroad was built. Where the railroad crossed the highway that piece of land served a dual purpose and each respected the other's rights. At that time and for years afterwards, the vehicles on the highway were horse-drawn, and on the railroad was a coal-burning steam engine that sent up a roll of heavy smoke and made a lot of noise, that could be seen and heard for quite a time before the train arrived at the crossing. There were no train-highway accidents in those days.

Now motor vehicles, traction engines, etc., use the highway, and the old steam engine is replaced by an oil burning engine that travels with little or no noise or display. The railway crossing signs are still where they were, and are of little or no benefit to the car or truck driver. If he can see and read them he is too close to stop before he reaches the crossing. A car or truck traveling at a slow rate of speed, and a train would very soon come together, both heading for the same place, i.e. the crossing. If one did not come to a full stop, the Act says that the motor vehicle on the right has the right of way, and the one on the left, if it cannot pass safely, shall immediately stop. The common law of our country is for the protection of life and property.

The driver of a train has his engine under his control at all times, not so with the driver of a car or truck, on a slippery going down grade. He can hold the wheels from turning, but the vehicle may keep on going. Why should not the train stop when there is danger ahead?

I am, Sir, etc. W. J. SEAMAN, Springfield, P. E. I.

COMBINES & COMMUNISM

Sir—This controversy over "Communism and Capitalism" needs some clarification. Capitalism is a very wide term which includes all kinds of profit-making enterprises; but profit in the majority of businesses is quite legitimate. A farmer or a store-keeper must make profit or go to the wall. The capitalism that has now become jittery and is on the defensive is what is called by the great Amsterdam Conference where the World Christian Council was formed two years ago, "laissez-faire" capitalism, i.e., a body of people authorized by law to act as an individual. This brand is under the ban today because it is unchristian. It tends to be a soulless, re-

British Liberty

(New York Times Service)

Thanks to a fellow named Harry Willcock Britons have partly regained one of the liberties they lost in 1939—the right to be known in ordinary circumstances by name instead of number.

Willcock, a peppery little Yorkshireman with a ruddy face, sandy hair and a quick tongue accomplished this act of liberation by simply saying no to a policeman—something that a law abiding Englishman rarely does. By his defiance, said R. Hopkins Morris, a Liberal member of Parliament, Harry Willcock "created anarchy in high places."

Nobody was more surprised than Willcock himself. His one-man revolution was entirely unpremeditated. It was the result of a reflex action that many free citizens feel when approached by a policeman.

A year ago when questioned about overtime parking in Truro, Willcock refused to produce the identity card that every adult Briton has been required to carry since 1939. He told the policeman who asked for the card to present his compliments to the police superintendent and tell him to go to hell.

Nothing happened then but last December Willcock was stopped for speeding in Hornsey, a district of North London. Again he refused to show his card, and continued to do so, although he said he was "badgered" by the police for two months.

Finally, he was halted before the Hornsey magistrates who ruled that he was obliged to show his card, but imposed no punishment. It was the first time since 1939 that anyone convicted of refusing to produce an identity card has received an absolute discharge. However, Willcock was not satisfied. He appealed. Because of the importance of the case seven high court judges headed by the Lord Chief Justice were convened, for

gentles, all-absorbing financial cancer that kills all private enterprises.

Here in Canada there are several such combines whose capital runs into several billions and whose principles are determined by a very few directors. There is a large number of other such corporations that control many millions. In our Governments they wield undue influence.

Communism promises justice to all and does not and cannot keep its promise. Capitalism promises liberty to all and does not and cannot fulfill its promise. Corporations and capitalism is probably more dangerous to a country's spiritual welfare than Communism because it puts on a cloak of Christian religion.

The article from the Ottawa Journal, published in The Guardian June 20th, advises the Bishop of Sherbrooke and Dr. Sisco, secretary of the United Church Council, that they would do better to keep to their own job of preaching the Gospel, rather than meddling in matters that they know little about. For some years back this advice has been tendered to ministers of religion. I remember reading that in Germany, before the First Great War, when some Lutheran Church leaders dared to criticize the Government policies, the same advice was given the critics and given with somewhat more emphasis than is done here in Charlottetown in our day.

In other words religion is for Sunday and should not upset secular arrangements by pushing Christian principles into week days. The religion of Jesus is for every day and for all weathers.

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

(The Journal's article did not suggest that ministers of religion should refrain from discussing Capitalism and Communism, only that they should do so intelligibly by defining their terms. Our correspondent's explanation makes clear the necessity of this course in avoiding misleading comparisons.—Ed. G.)

The Age-Old Story

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

the first time since 1898, to hear the appeal.

War-time Measure

Willcock's lawyers contended that the National Registration Act, requiring citizens to carry identity cards, was enacted for the specific purpose of helping to prosecute the war, and should have been rescinded after the emergency had passed. The law itself provided that it could be revoked by order of the King after the war and other similar laws already have been cancelled.

While the case was under consideration Willcock again refused to produce his identity card for the purpose of obtaining a new food ration book. Nevertheless he got the book, the only one in Britain that does not bear the owner's national registration number.

Last Tuesday, however, the high court decided that the identity card was still valid. At the same time Lord Chief Justice Goddard said in his decision: "For the police to demand an identity card from all and sundry—except when looking for a stolen car or criminals—is wholly unreasonable."

Harry Willcock lost his case but the Daily Mail said "he scored a resounding victory—and every man and woman in Britain will soon share in the fruits."

The first fruits were orders to the London and Birmingham police not to demand identity cards from motorists. Since 1941 the police have kept a card index of offenders according to their identity card numbers. In the first week after the court's decision five persons accused of refusing to show their identity cards were released by the courts.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

VIGILANCE SOCIETY

An announcement appearing in the Colonial Herald of Sept. 19, 1840, stated that owing to "thefts and depredations committed nightly in Charlottetown, many of which have hitherto gone unpunished", and in response to a petition signed by more than one hundred respectable householders, a meeting was being called at the hour of 12 o'clock, on Monday, the 21st instant, in the Court House, to consider the expediency of forming a society for the detection and prosecution of offenders.

The meeting, at which Hon. John Brooker presided, resulted in the formation of a vigilance society along the lines suggested. Any person might become a member by paying the yearly sum of 4s. 6d. The affairs of the society were to be conducted by a committee of thirteen, to be chosen annually, the following being elected for the ensuing year: Messrs. J. S. Dealey, Martin Dogberry, Alexander Davidson, C. Davidson, James D. Hazard, Daniel Hodgson, Robert Longworth, Kenneth MacKenzie, Samuel Nelson, Capt. Swabey, T. B. Treman, John Davis, junior, Thomas Dawson, Henry Palmer,

Notes By The Way

A reasonable letter protests against the bedlam created by selfish householders who take their radios outside and turn up the power. The complainant pointed out that radio is all right when properly used, but that when several radios are turned on at full volume, and compete with each other on the Summer air, then they are a serious menace. We have received a number of comments from readers who agree. We agree, also. Noise is a problem in any city, and undue noise can do more to destroy pleasure and tranquility than almost any other form of nuisance. It is also physically tiring.—(Vancouver Province).

Inability to enlist enough Canadian doctors for our armed forces has resulted in the recruitment of doctors from the United Kingdom and Eire. These are available, as after two years' service they can immediately set up practice in Canada. This is a serious situation. If we are short of doctors now, what would be the situation were World War III to develop? True, there then would be a greater disposition by the doctors to offer themselves, but it would result in a serious shortage of medical men in civilian responsibilities. Particularly if Canada were subjected to bombing. Many doc-

The Poet's Corner

Trees are the aspiration of the ground. Rooted in earth, look how they build in air. A green cathedral echoing with the sound. Of music... He who climbs their spiraled stair Approaches the Himalayas of the mind. But soon he will return unto the sighing Leaves and dwelling in their dust will find Peace and strength for living and for dying. They are father and mother to the lonely heart. To the homeless they are home. They give the brain Its childhood images, with consummate art Building until life's ugliness and pain Are diminished by their influence and the night Is outdanced by their journey into light. —Florence Ripley Mastin

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for various practitioners including lawyers (A. Walther Gaudet, J. A. McGuigan, Frederic A. Large, K. C., Bell, Mathieson & Foster, J. S. Taylor, Dr. John E. Storns, Allison M. Gillis, Byron J. Grant), optometrists (Palmer & Haslam, M. Alban Farmer), veterinarians (Dr. John E. Storns), and accountants (H. R. Doane & Co., McDonald, Currie & Co.).