

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1952

Airport Possibilities

There is no question but that Mayor Stewart is right in stressing the tremendous possibilities involved in developing our airport facilities at Charlottetown. Opportunity has been very patient with us in this regard; it has been knocking at the door for the past decade, and now more persistently than ever. What are we waiting for? Back in 1943 this project was very much to the fore at Board of Trade and City Council meetings. An investigator was sent from Ottawa to examine the site with a view to making large-scale improvements, and there was a lot of talk and enthusiasm. Then it all petered out. The Doubting Thomases took over. Another type of knocker, not old man Opportunity, gained entrance on that occasion, and we have had him with us to our sorrow ever since.

The issue then, as now, hinged on the City obtaining the extra land required. Just what happened has never been satisfactorily explained, but the scheme was scuttled or abandoned. In the meantime, other centres have been forging ahead as air terminals and we are today in practically the same position we were at the close of the war, with an airport which has everything in its favor geographically and climatically, and which lacks only landing accommodation to place it in the forefront of commercial aviation in Eastern Canada.

Interest in the project has been revived by the recent visit of Mayor Stewart and Premier Jones to Ottawa, and by the subsequent visit here of Defense Minister Claxton. It appears that both the Transport and Defense Departments are sympathetic, and will co-operate if we show the necessary initiative. The City Council is planning to have a new survey made this spring, and is keeping in close touch with Ottawa.

Let us hope that this time the project will have the full support of all our citizens, representatives and public bodies. What we have lost by past indecision and lack of unity will never now be recovered; but in this new field of air transportation it is the future that counts. One need only cite the tremendous progress made by our Maritime Central Airways, despite the handicap imposed by airport limitations locally, to realize what is at stake. Let's not wait until public interest again subsides. This may be Opportunity's last bid for our attention, or at least the last chance we may have of interesting Ottawa in the scheme.

The Three Easts

A National Geographic Society news bulletin performs a useful service in defining clearly what is meant by references to the Near, Middle and Far East. These various terms serve to break the vast Orient into handy sections, but because they lack any broad and official status, they remain vague in the public mind. The Society, dealing in terms of logical geographic divisions, currently divides the three Easts as follows:

Far East: China, Mongolian Republic, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Indochina, Thailand (Siam), Burma, Malaya, and Indonesia.

Middle East: India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim, and Ceylon.

Near East: Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, and the countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

Burma, long grouped with India because of political ties, became independent in 1948, and has quite recently been transferred to the U. S. State Department's Far East grouping. The shift is logical, as the National Geographic sees it, since Burma alone of the countries in Asia's big south-eastern peninsula had been outside the Far East designation.

By common consent, authorities on the Orient keep south of Russia in defining Middle East and Near East. Prior to World War II, Middle East quite commonly described the region of the Indian subcontinent, although the designation was often made to reach westward to embrace Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. The war, however, greatly complicated the meaning of the term by bringing to the forefront the spreading British Middle East Command. The Command's military province expanded westward until it reached from Iran to Libya, inclusive. War communiques from as far west as Bengasi and Tripoli were labelled Middle East.

In British usage, the Balkan States of southwestern Europe often have been tab-

bed as part of the Near East, but American practice is to align them geographically with the West.

Moving With The Times

Commenting on Mr. Donald Gordon's announcement that the C. N. R. has purchased its last steam locomotive, the Moncton Transcript concedes that the rise of diesel and the decline of coal-burning engines will, of course, have an adverse effect on colliery operations in Nova Scotia and Western Canadian mines. But this trend has been evident for some time; it is not at all an unexpected development. It means that the coal mining industry must concentrate on research so as to devise other uses for this type of fuel. For it is unrealistic—as some politicians seem to think—that the now practically obsolete steam locomotives should be retained to operate on the nationally-owned railways when the Canadian Pacific and most of the American railroads are fully dieselized, and as such would be outdistancing and outclassing the C. N. R. in performance and service to the public.

The same criticism was made—it will be recalled—in connection with the M/V Abegweit, whose efficiency as an icebreaker is in no small measure due to the fact that she is diesel powered. There was a strong pull to have this ferry built as a coal burner, like her predecessors, but fortunately political interference proved ineffective at that time. Since then we have seen our whole Island division dieselized, and according to the Railway management, this was an important factor in the efficient snow clearance job done on Island lines during the past winter.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, third Sunday after Easter.

English farmers hope to produce about 250,000 long tons more meat, mainly pork, by 1956, Lord Woolton, co-ordinator of Food and Agriculture, told the House of Lords on Wednesday.

Queen Mary, who has been suffering from a cold and cough for three weeks, is making good progress. The Queen, who will be 85 May 26, is still confined to Marlborough House.

Newfoundland's prosperity as a Canadian Province is fortunate both for the Newfoundlanders themselves and as a factor in preventing the growth of any secessionist sentiment.

Perhaps one should not be unduly suspicious but the requests received by the Trade Director for samples of the various labels used by our canners would seem to require at least an enquiry as to their bona fides.

Niccolo Machiavelli, Italian statesman and author, was born this date 1469. His famous work "The Prince" was published five years after his death and has been described as a guide for the perfect autocrat. Machiavelli's work marks the end of the unsystemed medieval state and the rise of the modern centralized nation.

Someone in the staff magazine of the British Electricity Authority must have rapped for this: "Among the liabilities which the Authority took over on vesting date are a number of persons on the staff who still believe that the electricity supply industry should be run for the benefit of consumers."

A report from Quebec indicates that because of the mild winter and the few ice floes bearing seals which came close to land in the St. Lawrence area there was a marked drop in the seal catch. Our south shore fishermen are finding that an excess of ice is preventing them from making an early start on their lobster fishing.

Good fishing depends upon suitable water areas and a plentiful supply of food for the game fish. An advantage enjoyed in this Province is the quantity of fertilizer which finds its way into streams and pools to stimulate the growth of the organisms on which the trout must feed. In British Columbia they are reducing competition for the available food supply by cleaning out coarse fish as far as possible.

Evidently steel is not impossible to get in Ontario. The Burlington Bridge over the Canal at Hamilton was run into and smashed by a sand freighter. The Provincial government, which has a fifty-fifty arrangement with the Federal Government, intimates that reconstruction will begin immediately. Acting Highway Minister Dunbar said he did not consider the steel shortage should be any reason for not completing the highway section at least. He felt confident sufficient steel could be found. When actual bridge construction is started the job will take two years to complete.

Investment In Satisfaction



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.

WARMLY APPRECIATED

Sir,—May I take the liberty of using the medium of your column to voice my heartfelt appreciation of the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. I feel sure that these are also the sentiments of many hundreds of patients right here in this province of ours who have received free blood transfusions during and following major operations. The fact that this blood was available without any of the former worry of frantically contacting relatives and friends at the time of the operation was of inestimable comfort to me. We, who have benefitted by this service in such numbers should feel it our bounden duty to urge those who are able, to be donors and so build up the stock required to carry on this service.

Through the medium of the Canadian Red Cross Society the average public-spirited citizen is enabled to contribute with which to provide life itself for his fellowman. To all concerned I say a most sincere "thank you" and I trust that next week's clinics will be thoroughly successful and exceed the objective set.

I am, Sir, etc., A. GRAYSON, WILMINGTON.

FREEDOM FROM FEAR & WANT

Sir,—Some years ago a newly arrived clergyman in visiting his parishioners, came across just one case of real want, the breadwinner being bedridden. He spoke privately to a few who responded with clothing, fuel and food. He was surprised that we had so few needing help and was most glad to find one case that would give us a chance to practice sympathy and charity.

Our Minister of Health and Welfare has expressed himself to the effect that the church and others should not drop the aged custom of helping the poor, simply because the Federal and Provincial Governments are doing a little along that line. The church has always done a little to relieve distress and should do more, in spite of family allowances and old age pensions over 65 years.

When a community asks for special help for any needy family, it should at the same time get active in providing a way for any who who in the home can do work to help themselves and be the better for it.

We are imagining an average case of the father confined to bed for months, the mother below the age limit for getting pension, three children of school age getting their allowance. This adds up to two dollars and eighty cents per week for each in the home which is not far living and leaves nothing for house rent, fuel, light, footwear, clothing or drugstore bills, not to mention church dues.

If a family such as we have mentioned should be living in a village or country district, what about a large garden, say one half acre? Quite easy to get free use of that much land, a few spreader loads of well rotted barnyard fertilizer from someone else, a small amount of horse work from another, one or two bags of seed potatoes from another, donation of garden seeds from the merchants and free oversight from a nearby neighbor. This would give the growing boys an acquaintance with the use of the hoe, teach how to grow good cabbage and carrots, enable them to enjoy their lettuce, beans and beans from early summer, and also to have enough for winter of vegetables and a few to sell in fall to buy books and hockey sticks. This would be a help in a social way to all who lent a hand, for it is by giving that we get "good measure pressed down and running over."

It would boost morale and independence in family and improve the chances of the mother in the home of getting the wherewithal required. Where a plan materializes it answers our own prayers of "give us our daily bread" and helps to remove

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

WAR AND COMMERCE

"In 1792 our fisheries which had been gradually revived since 1784, promised to become again considerable, and afforded the means of recommencing a trade with the West India Islands, by which we were abundantly supplied with their produce upon very moderate terms; several cargoes of fish were also annually shipped for the European market, for which British manufacturers, salt and wine were brought in return."

"Besides the cod fishery, the herring fishery was begun and promised well, and our merchants had found means to obtain a considerable share in the produce of the great salmon fisheries carried on in our neighborhood on the continent, and upon the whole there was every appearance of extensive and valuable fisheries being established to the great benefit of the Island when the late (American) war commenced; since which the fisheries have been almost given up; and our articles of export now consist of wheat, barley, oats, salt pork, butter, furs, seal oil, and oysters, to Nova Scotia, with live cattle and some timber to Newfoundland, and occasionally a few carcases of sea-cod to the West Indies."

"A few people are also engaged in building ships which are generally sold in Newfoundland. This is a business which will probably be carried on to a great extent, should Newfoundland fisheries revive on the restoration of peace, as the great plenty of timber in several districts, and the reasonable rate at which the necessities of life are obtained, will enable us to build at a much cheaper rate, than they can do in Newfoundland, where the timber is now generally at such a distance from the harbours as to make it very expensive."

"Since 1792 the importation of any kind of provisions has totally ceased, and the export of these articles has gradually increased."

—From "An Account of Prince Edward Island", etc., by John Stewart, Esq., 1806.

BONN, May 2 (AP)—A former member of the West German parliament who had himself declared dead and remarried his wife in order to hide his Nazi past, was sentenced to 18 months in prison today. Franz Roessler, 41, who called himself Dr. Franz Richter when he was a deputy in the lower house of parliament, pleaded guilty to charges of fraud and perjury.

fear which is perhaps our greatest enemy. But a family can not live by vegetables alone; it takes a monthly Government cheque for a mother to invest in clothing and fuel.

I am, Sir, etc., ARCH. MacKENZIE, Kensington.

The Poet's Corner

FROM: THE CITY OF DREADFUL NIGHT

Of all things human which are strange and wild, This is perchance the wildest and most strange, And showeth man most utterly beguiled, To those who haunt that sunless City's range; That he becomes himself for aye, repeating How Time is deadly swift, how life is fleeting, How naught is constant on the earth but change.

The hours are heavy to him, and the days; The burden of the months he scarce can bear; And often in his secret soul he prays To sleep through barren periods unaware, Arousing at some longed-for date of pleasure; Which, having passed and yielded him small treasure, He would oversleep another term of care.

—James Thomson.

Those Germs Again

(Winnipeg Free Press) Dr. James G. Endicott, of Canadian "Peace" Council fame, has said in Mukden and again in Hong Kong that he had "fully proved" Communist charges that U.N. forces in Korea have used germ warfare, and he believes the bacteria may have been produced in Canada.

The specious lie about germ warfare is still being peddled by Communists, and by Communist-fronters like Dr. Endicott. For instance, Professor Frederic Joliot-Curie, the French physicist and Communist fellow traveller has been faithfully spreading the Communist banard. It has however, been thrown back in his teeth by Mr. Warren G. Austin, the chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations, who has accused him of prostituting science in the interest of Communist propaganda.

He has written Professor Joliot-Curie a letter, pointing out that reputable scientists have exposed the faked and clumsy photos that Chinese Communists produced to give a semblance of plausibility to the accusation. Mr. Austin said in his letter:

"One must feel sorry to witness a man of your scientific training promoting propaganda campaign based upon the tricks of charlatans who are afraid to submit their so-called evidence to impartial scientific scrutiny. . . . If you want anybody to believe you have a shred of independence or integrity, you would join with fair minded people everywhere in demanding on-the-

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Notes By The Way

The House of Lords still keeps some of its fallen day about it. There are occasions—the debate on Seretse Khama was one—that fill the peeresses' gallery with women of grace, elegance and schooled manners that you would find in no other deliberative assembly. The laws of heredity are seen to it that the aristocracy shall survive in its physical and moral attributes long after its political and economic death. These women provide the one additional piece of decor the gilded chamber needs. They triumph even against the opulent setting. Why not, once in a while, in a world submerged in politics, take some account of more engaging phenomena? There shall be no apologies for it here. —London Spectator.

A chance remark over the telephone has turned the international news spotlight on "North Bay versus the Flying Saucers." A reporter on this newspaper, naturally intrigued by a nonchalant comment from an air force officer that two flying saucer incidents had been reported by station personnel, obtained sufficient authentic information to write a headline news story. The effect was more remarkable than even we anticipated. The story was flashed from coast to coast and into the United States; other newspapers and news services enlarged upon it. But what we appreciated most about the story was the fact that

Ottawa's higher echelons did not dismiss it with a vague pooh-pooh. —North Bay Nugget. Mr. H. W. Herridge, (Kootenay West): I was coming to Ottawa for this session, and the train stopped at a prairie city for 40 minutes. Like most people, I got out of the train and walked about 20 minutes before the train left. A CPR constable was standing there. He said: "I am very sorry but you cannot get on. They are switching sleeping cars, or something." So we stood there. In front of me was a lady with a baby in her arms. Along came a brigadier and he said: "Stand aside, please." So the lady with the baby in her arms stood aside, and he went on to the platform and got in a coach. I said to the CPR constable: "Why did you let him through and keep the mother with her baby in her arms standing here for 20 minutes." He said: "Sorry, sir, that is orders; he is a brigadier." That shows a complete lack of democracy and of the things we stand for. —Commons Hansard.

The Age-Old Story

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple. . . . Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up; and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping, and praising God.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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