

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1952

Innocents Abroad?

Until a week or so ago nobody had ever heard of Heinrich Krumm, or, for that matter, of Paul Juntgen or Erwin Brannekamper. Yet almost overnight these three hitherto inconspicuous individuals have become among the most sought-after men in Chancellor Adenauer's Germany.

The reason? Herr Krumm makes soap, while Juntgen and Brannekamper manufacture leather products. These three were among the nineteen German business men who attended the recently concluded Moscow Economic conference. They have come home with glowing tales of Russian promises to restore to Germany the eastern markets which, for decades, have lured the Reich into economic and military adventures in the east.

Little wonder that German business men, confronted with the spectre of rising market resistance and the possibility of tariff restrictions in the western democracies, are eyeing the Soviet offer of Iron Curtain markets with a hungry eye. In fact, there is more than a little evidence to support the view that a good deal of western Germany's trade with Switzerland and Sweden is merely a blind for transshipment of goods to the Soviet Union.

Just how serious Russia's propaganda campaign for a restoration of trade with the Iron Curtain countries really is may be understood when it is recalled that just a few days ago the Lower House of the Bonn Parliament voted for the abolition of Allied trade restrictions on exports from Germany to the Soviet Union. The Moscow Economic Conference has already had repercussions far more serious for the west than the abortive Stockholm Peace Declaration of two years ago. It has won for the Soviet Union at least the temporary acquiescence and support of workers and employers alike in a large part of western Germany.

R. N.

Twenty-eight student nurses qualified to receive their pins and diplomas yesterday, graduates of the P. E. I. Hospital School of Nursing. They have yet to complete some of their practical training before being full fledged Registered Nurses but they may well take pride in their achievement.

The nursing profession is a dedicated one. Its members have devoted long hours and years to preparing themselves to aid suffering humanity. Completion of training means that they are ready and qualified to assume the responsibility of the care of the sick under the direction of the physician.

The members of the profession do not look for an easy life. If they did they would have sought it in other directions. They are willing to face the strain which is inseparable from their grave responsibilities but they in turn deserve that every effort should be made to see that their work is lightened and their lives full and interesting. For the sake of their patients as well as in fairness to themselves nurses' conditions of work must be made as satisfactory as can be.

20 Years In Dispute

The Ottawa Citizen notes that the case which was argued before the Supreme Court of Canada last week on the marketing of farm and other natural products represents the first major constitutional issue which must be decided by the Canadian courts without final recourse to the Privy Council in London.

The case is of course important for other reasons. For 20 years organized producers in many parts of Canada have been seeking legislation which would enable boards acting on their behalf to control the sale of the entire output of various products. The big difference between such marketing schemes and co-operative marketing is that the first type is compulsory (upon a vote of the growers concerned), the second voluntary.

The path to the former objective has been strewn with constitutional obstacles. The Bennett government enacted the National Products Marketing Act in 1935, but this legislation was found ultra vires of Parliament. Then British Columbia, the pioneer in the campaign, passed a marketing act the scope of which was limited strictly to transactions within that province. Several other provinces followed suit. These acts were of no value to a group which wished

to control its product in inter-provincial or export trade. Farm products could still be sold independently outside the province where they originated.

Parliament attempted at last to meet this difficulty through passage of the Agricultural Products Marketing Act in 1949. This act did not provide for the setting up of Federal boards for marketing purposes, but it did say that the government could delegate authority to provincial boards in the purely Federal fields of inter-provincial and export trade.

Without attempting to evaluate the issue resulting from the adverse decision of the Prince Edward Island Supreme Court in the potato board case, the Citizen expresses the hope that whatever the outcome, Canadian farmers will be able to obtain machinery for the orderly marketing of their products. Each scheme should be judged on its merits, the test being that it is in the interests of consumers as well as growers. It does seem strange that after 20 years the constitutional aspects should still be a matter of legal argument.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Sea Cadet inspection today. The distinguished inspecting officer is Rear Admiral R. E. S. Bidwell, C.B.E., C.D., R.C.N.

The close of another college year brings its flood of young men and women into business, the professions and government. Today government, business and the professions seem to swallow the entire output without the slightest discomfort.

The Memorial Field at Victoria Park is to be lighted for night baseball and other purposes by early in July. Charlottetown citizens are most fortunate to have the track and sports field there and now may enjoy programmes without their being called on account of darkness.

The suggestion of Mr. Elmer Harris for the visit of theatrical companies here in the tourist season should not be lost sight of. It was such a suggestion regarding community concerts that led to the present highly satisfactory series of concerts so much appreciated in the Fall and Winter months.

The resignation of Canon Malone, St. Peter's, which is not to take effect till September, will mean a great loss not only to St. Peter's Cathedral but to the community at large. In religious and public life generally he is one of our outstanding assets and his presence will be very greatly missed.

Albert Einstein, propounder of the theory of relativity, was born this date 1879. Educated in Germany, Italy and Switzerland, he became a professor of physics. He gave a new direction to thought about light and allied subjects by pointing out that time and space are not absolute but merely relative to the observer. Without his concepts work on such things as the atomic bomb would have been impossible.

Mayor Wedge, Summerside, is determined to do his utmost to make a success of a plan to provide the town with an indoor rink. His plan is to establish a fund, under Town Council supervision, to which service and other clubs, together with individual citizens, may contribute, and to which the Town Council would make a substantial donation. An organization under His Worship's direction is bound to realize his anticipations.

"I'm not claiming that the more you develop your mind the happier you will be. No reasonable man can hope to be intelligent and happy. Frequently your improved intellect will make you exasperated at the fatuity and ineptitude of people in high places; you will write frantic letters to the papers (which they won't publish). But the great point is, you'll be alive."—Friedrich Willis, speaking in the BBC's Home Service about the way in which people should occupy their time after retiring from commercial life.

Replying to a criticism of the law courts in Quebec, Chief Judge Thomas Tremblay of Sessions Court, Montreal, declared: "It is too often forgotten that Sessions Court judges, if they are the guardians of peace and order, are also the keepers of the most precious assets of individuals and families. Not only must they protect material goods but at the same time they must by scrupulously observing procedure and the law of evidence see to it that dishonor is not unjustly cast upon individuals and families." Chief Judge Tremblay added that in the present "troubled epoch" it is necessary more than ever to return to the basic principles. "These are," he said, "integrity of the family, honesty and competence in the exercise of professions and trades, and respect for laws and for authority."



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.

ANOTHER SLAP AT FARMERS

Sir,—We have just paid another fine, this time \$40 for overweight on our farm truck. Our load, despite police scales, was not seriously overweight. We had slightly over four tons of fertilizer, and have invoices to prove it. We had nothing else on the truck but the driver. The truck weighed on the city scales a little over six thousand pounds stripped, and seventy-four hundred with all extra equipment. This "crime" was committed on Friday, the second day of May, and it was necessary for us to leave essential work on the farm in order to get to Charlottetown and pay our fine.—The alternatives, impounding of a farm truck, and jail for the farmer, being quite within the scope of the Government executives possessed of the peculiar mentality that our department's department heads exhibit. On Monday, all restrictions were lifted. We have never as yet deliberately broken any law. All winter long we did our best to obey the variable injunctions that issued ubiquitously, and sponsored by the Department of Public Works, from every source of publication known to modern man. "The roads are open to heavy traffic," followed in twenty-four hours by "The roads are closed to all vehicular traffic exceeding five thousand pounds," issued irregularly with monotonous regularity from our radios following weather changes. Despite this war of nerves against the farmers, and the rather frantic inefficiency of departmental highway policy, we followed along and hired light trucks till May 2.

On Thursday, we were informed by a bus driver that the roads were open, and that he was operating his bus on the following day. We did not inquire further as we considered that no government of an agricultural Province, unless made mad by the gods, would issue a permit to a transport company to run a bus weighing, when loaded to capacity, nineteen thousand pounds, or in that vicinity, and refuse a farmer permission to haul a little fertilizer, the earliest possible application of which obviously is proclaimed by another department as essential to maximum benefit on pastures.

We followed the bus. It was passed by the police without a glance, and our truck was stopped—we must say politely, and somewhat apologetically—weighed, and a summons issued. When we inquired at the department, and we admit somewhat heatedly, why we were fined while the transport company was permitted to run, the reply was to the effect that they wished to allow country people to come to Charlottetown for the weekend. Evidently this persnickious and political department considers the patronage that the moving pictures, the vendors, and the merchants of Charlottetown obtain through permits issued with such partiality are more important to the economy of this Province than that selected them and employs them than any leniency or courtesy they could extend to the farmer. We can understand a chauvinistic tendency on the part of government employees, whose birthplace and habitat is the City of Charlottetown. But we cannot perceive what type of pressure could possibly be brought to bear on a farmer Premier and a former Minister of Public Works, in order to induce men of such recognized integrity to resort to discrimination so obvious.

The incidence of foot and mouth disease, and its disastrous repercussions, the latter due in a large measure to Federal ineptitude, exorbitant taxation with inflationary consequences on the price of consumer goods; the exodus of labour to industrial cen-

The Age-Old Story

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for with cruelty, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

tres necessitating the purchase of more and more expensive farm machinery—all combine to make the farmer's life difficult. This is the third time we have been fined, twice before for driving in excess of twenty-five miles per hour, each time with a load of perishable lambs, which another statute states must not be treated with cruelty. As it is a mechanical impossibility to drive a loaded truck in high gear at a speed within twenty-five miles per hour, we would be forced to go in second gear all the way. Lambs would, trample each other, and die when delayed in transit; thus, we would have, paradoxically, to break one law in order to observe the other.

We are referring to these past episodes to emphasize a previous contention that these statutes are placed on record by men to whom the needs of the farmers are incomprehensible, or a much worse surmise—to whom they are unimportant. We are forced to conclude that the urge to impose fines on farmers, with this Government, is endemic. We realize that our roads, which were poorly built and ill supervised in some districts, are in a deplorable condition. In the name of common sense then, why are they broken up by heavy ploughs all winter only to be followed by an order for all vehicles in excess of five thousand pounds to stay off the roads. Should all this expense be employed in the interests of a few commercial travellers coming from the city to solicit business for it, and a few sporty hockey fans wishing to attend the matches, while farmers, fishermen, and commercial truckmen are denied the roads?

A glance at the advertising columns of this paper covering a period of the past month will show that the necessity for fostering instead of persecuting the farmer is supreme. Farms, livestock and machinery sales are advertised with portentous regularity; whole districts are, decimated; the stark, black emptiness of broken windows in deserted homes greets us in mournful procession from every neglected byway; the migration to the civic centres and the safety of unemployment insurance benefits continues, while government heads contribute syphilis and wretchedness to the farmer's life for striving to supply the necessities of life to one and all. I am Sir, etc. C. C. PRATT St. Peter's, P.E.I.

INSPIRING LITERATURE

Sir,—A 17th century writer, in his book called "The Pilgrim's Progress", tells of being led through the "House of the Interpreter". In one room he saw a man hard at work with a rake among rubbish on the floor. He always kept his eyes earthward. And that was the reason that he had never noticed a golden crown above his head. It was splendid to be diligent but his work would have been more pleasant if he were conscious of the crown being there and knew that some day that treasure would be his. It all depends on whether a person looks up or down. "Two men looked out through prison bars. One saw mud, the other stars." I heard a man at noon tide blaspheming. At bed time he was less violent, but his talk and thoughts were of the earth—earthly. I thought how starved his soul is. A valiant soldier for the upward look, is Rev. James Keller of New York. To make it easy for new beginners he has published a book of 365 pages besides the introduction. It is called "Three Minutes a Day". Each page is meant for one day and contains a title, a talk or sermonette, a text or verse of scripture, a short prayer and a thought for the day. This man's aim is to increase the

The Poet's Corner

THE WOODSPURGE

The wind flapped loose, the wind was still, Shaken out dead from tree and hill: I had walked on at the wind's will— I sat now, for the wind was still.

Between my knees my forehead My lips, drawn in, said not Alas! My hair was over in the grass, My naked ears heard the day pass.

My eyes, wide open, had the run Of some ten weeks to fix upon; Among those few, out of the sun, The woodspurge flowered, three cups in one.

From perfect grief there need not be Wisdom or even memory: One thing then learnt remains to me.— The woodspurge has a cup of three.

—D. G. Rossetti.

number who know the Way, the Truth and the Life, that they may make Christ known in the market place, the "highways and the hedges" of every day life. There is really nothing new about this, for as far as we know, every Christian Church is supplying its people with a similar monthly booklet for family daily use. I like to read the literature of sister denominations and have used two, and one other, "The Upper Room" (undenominational) which has reached the largest number of readers, perhaps millions. All are excellent and I have found them helpful in daily family devotion. But in "Three Minutes a Day" we meet a man who seems to be Christ's ambassador. We are able to meet him on common ground, which is, Christ the hope of the world. We wonder at the secret of his faith, his answer, his "knows the Holy Scriptures" which has made him wise. I am, Sir, etc. ARCH MACKENZIE, Kensington, P.E.I.

FLYING SAUCER MYSTERY

Sir,—Allow me space in your Public Forum to make a few comments on the flying saucers, or flying discs as they are sometimes called. They are still a great mystery to the people of this Province, and in fact to all of North America. When we first heard of them over Prince Edward Island we smiled and said it must have been a shooting star or a weather balloon, or perhaps just mere imagination, etc. Later we thought some nation behind the Iron Curtain might be experimenting with some new weapon; but as they became more noticeable by a lot of serious-minded people we are now convinced they are at least a certainty and a reality; yet the mystery still remains unsolved by most people in spite of the fact that Government scientists are investigating.

We know that an Air Force plane in Ontario tried to intercept one at a speed of 450 m.p.h. and it seemed to be standing still in comparison with the speed of the flying saucer which some observers claim was travelling at a speed of 2,000 m.p.h. and I can say that that rate is not their limit. We are told they leave a trail of fire and smoke behind them that can be easily seen after night.

The latest report from those trying to solve the mystery comes from the scientists, who say they are some organic structure coming from Mars or Venus or some other planet. That idea is positively wrong. If I were not a strong supernaturalist I could never attempt to explain their origin and purpose. They are supernatural objects, sponsored and controlled by the Satanic power and no human being will ever be able to come in contact with them. As to their purpose, I don't wish

Notes By The Way

For several hours 500 prisoners were masters of the situation in the Montreal common jail. Repetition of affairs of this kind can have serious consequences. Guards might be killed; prisoners also. In either case human beings are involved. If there is someone or something wrong there, it should be known, and wrong must be righted, whatever they are. The Attorney-General is probably informed on the matter. We hope that this week he will order the enquiry which the public demands. — Le Devoir, Montreal.

Are passenger trains on the way out? Will railways in the years ahead come to depend very largely on the movement of freight for their incomes? This question has been hinted at before, but railway men do not like to talk about it. However, William B. Salter, general manager of Hamilton, Ont., of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway, speaking to the Philos Railway at Hamilton the other evening, was quite frank in expressing his belief that the day of the passenger train is rapidly nearing an end. He put chief blame on the privately owned passenger automobile. That is the thief which has been stealing the railways' passengers. He told his audience: "Cost of modern day passenger coaches is so great that it is not economically possible to purchase them in view of the few people who ride in them." — Lethbridge Herald.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) MAIDEN SPEECHES

"The debate on the Address began in the Legislature last evening and the members heard, with gratification and applause, the maiden speeches of Dr. Gillis, Mr. John MacLean and Mr. Blake. All three were gentlemanly in tone and well delivered; and all three dealt with the living issues of the Province. In calling attention particularly to the encouragement the Government have given to agriculture and the promotion of a spirit of emulation among our farmers, our promising young legislators showed good discernment; for no better service can be rendered by a local administration. Their remarks upon the want of better communication with the Mainland, and better means for transporting our surplus produce, were practical, business-like and to the point." —The Examiner, March 28, 1883.

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