

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1950

It Works Both Ways

A delegation of four Scotsmen intends to make a two-week tour of American and Canadian cities at the end of June to promote interest in Scottish Covenant. This is a non-party movement that seeks greater legislative independence for Scotland in domestic affairs, including a Scottish Parliament. Members of the delegation will be John MacCormick, leader of the movement; William Graham, secretary, and John J. Campbell, and Robert Turpie. They sailed on the Queen Mary on Friday. In America they will split up and between them visit New York, Washington, Chicago, Detroit, Toronto, and Ottawa, returning July 1.

The clear purpose of this delegation is to enlist American and Canadian support for the Scottish covenant and for a form of "home rule" for Scotland. It is well, however, to remember that the Statute of Westminster, 1931 declared, as previously set forth by the Commonwealth Conference of 1926, that the freely associated members of the British Commonwealth of Nations are in no way subordinate one to another, that they are equal in status and united by a common allegiance to the Crown.

It would be just grounds for indignation if the United Kingdom were to interfere with the form of government which Canadians may wish to establish here, and it would be no less improper for us to try to dictate how the British Isles shall be governed.

Reassuring Statements

On his recent visit to Charlottetown Mr. Graham Towers, Governor of the Bank of Canada, spoke optimistically of Canada's future and gave sound business reasons for his confidence. It is interesting to note that similar views have been expressed by the president of the Canadian Bankers' Association, Mr. J. U. Boyer, in his address to the annual meeting of that body in Montreal. Mr. Boyer cited the figures of banking and its growth as reflecting the new order of magnitude in the nation's general economy. This, he pointed out, was epitomized in a 1948 national product of nearly \$16 billions, contrasted with little more than \$5 billions in 1939. Then in 1949 gross national product, both as to volume and dollar-value, was higher than the preceding year, revealing greater strength of the Canadian economy. From these concrete factors he was able to predict with confidence that in the new economic dimensions of today, the prime aim of which is to maintain a high level of national income, the Canadian economy seems capable of it both in regard to the record of 1949 and the preliminary outlook for 1950.

Another factor denoting the increasing solidarity of Canada's position is the large and still increasing proportions of the savings resources of Canadians. The figures given by Mr. Boyer as representing cash assets of the people of this country on deposit in savings and current accounts in chartered banks total close to \$7 billions, an amount approximately \$425 millions or 6 1/2 per cent higher than a year ago. On this point of a huge accumulation of savings, Mr. Boyer had some sound advice to offer. His advocacy of the assets in prudent, productive investment would have a most important effect on expanding employment and the fruitful development of Canadian resources.

Churchill Does It

A recent London despatch told of the British House of Commons "quitting work in the grey light of dawn after a 16-hour session." Another London despatch told of Mr. Churchill's car being in a collision while he was riding out to Ascot to see his horse, Colonel II, run in the Ascot Gold Cup.

"How," asks the Ottawa Journal, "does Mr. Churchill manage it? Our own statesmen, with a lot less to do, seem to be chained to their desks. Mr. Churchill, leading the Opposition, writing a monumental book, and making speeches here, there and everywhere, contrives at the same time to travel, to do a bit of painting, and to take an occasional hour at the racetrack.

"And Mr. Churchill did these things when the war was at its height; had guests at Chequers and 10 Downing street, contrived to do some reading and writing, and was not infrequently a 'first-nighter' when good shows turned up in London.

"Is the difference between Mr. Churchill and our own statesmen simply that Mr. Churchill knows how to rid himself of details, to organize his work so that he may have some time to think, and also for what Stevenson once called a 'judicious bit of levity'?"

EDITORIAL NOTES

Queen Victoria's Jubilee, this date, 1887.

The Royal College of Surgeons was founded this date, 1843.

Gracie Fields is, of course, a Lancashire lass but as an entertainer, like Churchill as an orator, she belongs to all of us.

Summer commences this evening at 7:37, reassuring thought to those who feared that it had come and gone.

The Master of the Mint at Ottawa has been fined for sprinkling his lawn. It serves him right, of course, for treating water like money.

With all the problems of the nation on their shoulders Ottawans are giving their almost undivided attention to only one. Should shorts be worn and where?

It is gratifying to learn there will be "more jobs than workers" next month; only it would have been better if it had said "more workers in jobs."

As will be noted from the Alberton burglary case, when \$1,000 disappeared mysteriously while the owner's wife was at home, it is still safer to deposit money in the bank than leave it lying about the house.

Are we falling down in egg production? According to Ottawa there were only 113,000 cases received through egg grading stations against 129,000 the previous week. This accounts for the advance in price charged by the retailers.

"As you were" is the outcome of the three Federal by-elections this week. In each of the cases it was merely a decision on the choice of men—not measures. There are no great issues before the country to disturb the electorate and bring out the vote to any extent.

Farmers are responding well to the appeal for gifts to send to the assistance of their fellow farmers in recently flooded Manitoba. Such a gift is twice blessed; it blesses the unfortunate farmers receiving it; and likewise the pig industry in P. E. I.

The United States Department of Agriculture is studying an odd phenomenon. A few wads of cotton on a screen door causes flies to shun the place. The best opinion so far is that the critters mistake the bits of white for their chief enemy, a parasitic moth.

Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, in a pastoral letter, describes the "marvellous growth" of the Roman Catholic community in England and Wales in the past 100 years. The number has increased from an estimated 1,000,000 to over three times that number. There were fewer than 1,000 priests in the country in 1850, but now there were over six times that number. In 1850 there were but 694 churches, whereas now there were nearly 2,900.

Over 70,000 boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 18 will have one of the biggest thrills of their lives on July 5 when, as guests of Britain's Royal Air Force, they attend an all-day dress rehearsal of the R. A. F. Flying Display at Farnborough, in Southern England. The children will see individual and formation aerobatics by the latest Meteor and Vampire jet fighters, large formation fly-pasts by representative aircraft drawn from 35 squadrons, and "crazy" flying demonstrations.

It seems unfortunate the medical profession in Great Britain should threaten to go on strike for increased remuneration. The service there is nationalized, patients being entitled to free attendance and medicines as well. Doctors receive a flat payment of eighteen shillings for every patient on their lists to a maximum of 4,000. The doctors are now demanding an increase to thirty shillings. Very nearly twice the present rate.

Training in good taste and good manners is essential today when radio, cheap press, sensational novels and billboards assault the individual, Dr. W. D. Woodhead, McGill University, said at closing exercises of Macdonald College School of Household Science and School for Teachers. Chairman of the department of classics at the university, he said that because knowledge had so rapidly increased, it has become increasingly necessary to submit to taking short cuts. Magazines more and more usurp the place of books, translations the place of the original, synopses and abridgements the place of complete works. Knowledge tended increasingly to come second-hand, he said, but did little harm so long as the individual made no pretentious claims to first-hand knowledge he did not possess.

Looking At Potatoes

ASSUMING THAT FIGURES DON'T LIE, J. QUIZMO KARSHAM, SAGACIOUS INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER, SEEKING TESTIMONIALS TO THE HEALTHFUL QUALITIES OF THE OLD FASHIONED POTATO, RETREATS TO ONE OF P.E.I.'S LOVELY BEACHES...
MR. OZZIE OLDS PARK: 'I'm 98, and some say I don't look a day over 90. Potatoes did it, and my favorite dish now is buttered mashed spuds.'
CHAS. HATLESS: 'My strength is due to potatoes—I plant, till, spray and harvest them; also eat them.'
MISS LENA LITTLECLOSER: 'WHY, I eat so many potatoes folks used to say I'd grow up to look like one.'
MISS LOTTA TUNNIDGE: 'Potatoes?—Hmmp. Wouldn't touch them—they're fattening!'

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.

THE CRAPAUD PLEBISCITE

Sir,—It was stated in a late issue of The Guardian that the result of the ballots in the recent Crapaud plebiscite under the Village Service Act has been requested. A recount of the ballots even if conducted by the Supreme Court will not alter the fact that Mr. Robert Dawson and Mr. George Wotton the two leading exponents of the incorporation scheme, were the only ones appointed to act as scrutineers at the election, opponents of this incorporation scheme being entirely unrepresented. No place, I believe outside the U.S. S.R. are elections being conducted along similar lines. Nothing short of a new and properly conducted election will satisfy the large number of responsible citizens of Crapaud who signed and sent in a petition of protest. Crapaud still speaking. I am, Sir, etc., J. D. LORD.

SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT

Sir,—We were pleased to notice in your editorial on Monday that you said it was regrettable that Mrs. Gordon MacDonald's services on the City School Board could not be retained. May we make a slight correction? This should have read, "Her services were not retained." The circumstances under which she was replaced are unusual. Unusual—because the policy of the City Council has been, rightly or wrongly, to re-appoint its members on the City School Board. Unusual—because no reason for this change of policy has been given. Unusual—because this member happens to be one of the first two women ever to sit on the Charlottetown School Board. Unusual—because she was not notified that she had been replaced nor was she told where she had been re-assigned. Sir, it is our conviction that an ideal school board as an ideal home needs the contribution made by both man and woman with their inherent differences of outlook and experience. Could it be that the City Council did not give due consideration to this important factor when it replaced one of the two women members by a man? We are, Sir, etc., TWO INTERESTED CITIZENS

The Age-Old Story

He hath sent me to proclaim the broken-hearted to be glad the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FIRST STEAM POWER PRESS

"This paper has one thing at least to recommend it to the readers' attention: it is the first newspaper printed in Prince Edward Island by means of steam, and forms an epoch in its history. It is one among many other proofs that the infancy of the country is past, and that a vigorous healthy manhood is commencing. In our case the erection of a steam engine to work the power press is evidence of an increase in knowledge, of a demand for intellectual capital, for information without which all other capital is in a measure useless. We are proud to bear testimony to the fact that useful knowledge and learning is greatly on the increase, and we trust that but a very few years will be sufficed to elapse before the inhabitants of this island will be distinguished for having their minds equally as cultivated as their soil."

COAT-OF-ARMS

The oak tree and the tortoise and the hound, The strong, the steady, and the swift, The oak tree deeply rooted in the ground, The tortoise taking time to look around, Yet often reaching home before the hound. The greyhound and the tortoise and the oak, The fleet-foot and the steady and the strong; The greyhound leaping from the loosened leash, The tortoise undismayed by journeys long, And the great tree no stormwinds can provoke. The greyhound and the oak tree and the tortoise, The swift, the strong, the sure; The eager greyhound in its speed secure, The oak tree ready toughly to endure, And the slow tortoise calmly on the move. —Peter J. Henniker Heaton.

Piarcy On Grand Banks

(St. John's Telegram) By no means for the first time, banking vessels report their gear destroyed by foreign trawlers operating on the Grand Banks. Taking the position in which the vessels of the dory fishermen are anchored as indicating the locality in which good fishing is obtainable, some trawlers, it is claimed, sweep around the schooners at night and cause immense havoc to their gear. It is also claimed that the lives of the dorymen have been endangered by these depredations. The frequent complaints of this kind both by Newfoundland and Nova Scotia fishermen make it imperative that measures shall be taken for their protection against these piratical activities. It is true that so far no regulations on an international basis

The Poet's Corner

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Notes By The Way

What is needed is an overhaul of the whole parliamentary machine. The House of Commons at the present time is breaking down because it is trying to do too much. The Senate is eroding from a variety of causes one of which is its top-sided nature and the other that it has too little to do. —London Free Press

On Canisbay Moor, Calthness, a black-headed gull was seen to attack and kill a hare. The gull made several swoops at the hare, which used its speed on the ground to foil the attacks. Finally the gull caught the hare in its beak, and, soaring aloft, dropped it to the ground. The gull repeated the performance, and then began devouring the hare's carcass. —Edinburgh Scotsman.

British Columbia's Government Travel Bureau has given our tourist industry a boost by classifying the 1,200 auto courts and resorts in this province. The bureau's annual listing of resorts gives a government rating as to their comfort, convenience and sanitation. Resorts have been graded with one, two, three and four stars; those with four stars being rated the best. And it is now compulsory for every graded camp to display its "stars" in a conspicuous place. —Vancouver Province.

While Toronto schools have grown old and many of them antiquated and unsafe, Ferguson has replaced its entire school system in less than 31 years. The air in town is fresh and mostly unpolluted. Workmen get wages that compare favourably with city wages; they live in better houses, on the average; they have gardens and room for their children to play. There are no class distinctions. Workmen and bosses meet together in the service club, in the churches in sports. There are no long rides on street cars to go to work or recreation. Ferguson children have a better opportunity to take part in sports than most city children have. The finest example is provided by the swimming pool. Every child in the Ferguson schools, over the third grade can swim. That's a perfect record, and cannot be beaten anywhere. —Fergus News-Record.

The Supreme Court decision in the Texas tidelands case has inspired a rush to the history books by the people of Texas and their friends. The resulting refresher course in history has brought the spotlight to bear on the fact that Texas, when it entered the Union in 1846, was granted the right by Congress to create four additional states, making a total of five, within its boundaries. If Texas were to exercise that "right," the possible effect on the control of Congress or, to be more exact, the control of the Senate, would be tremendous. The Texas area would immediately have not two senators but ten. —Baltimore Sun.

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