

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, DEC. 9, 1953

They Won't Go Home

Communist members of an organization won't go home, the House of Commons was told by Mr. J. M. Macdonnell (PC—Toronto-Greenwood). The technique has been made familiar by various exposures of Communist strategy. It simply means that the Communist members out-sit the general membership and then pass resolutions corresponding to the party line and adopt courses of action which a real majority of the organization would repudiate.

This presumably is why the Communists can rely upon a wide variety of organizations promptly and publicly supporting latest propaganda ideas that come from Moscow. To carry out the programme it is only necessary to have a few party members in quite a large organization, preferably in office.

Other members and officers who are readily influenced by the determined minority can safely be left alone but when an individual understands what is going on and cannot be silenced he is "smeared". Nothing is too bad to say about him and the pressure is relentless until he is finally removed from office or from the organization.

The lesson of all this is that no one to-day can afford to lend his name and support to any body in which he is not prepared to pull his weight. It is the large number of indifferent members who permit the technique to be successful. In this Province there is less of a field for Communist effort than in the larger centres but here as elsewhere the members of organizations of every kind must remember that vigilance is the price of safety.

Danger Of Weariness

President Eisenhower says that "free nations must not grow weary of the processes of negotiation and adjustment." How very true and how very wise! Many times in the last eight years the patience of free world statesmen must have been very near the breaking point as they have seen the Communist spokesmen reject one good proposal after another which, if accepted, might have gone a long way towards relieving world tension. Often the Russian delegates have used the United Nations Assembly as a proving ground for their insidious propaganda rather than as a forum for the discussion of common problems.

There are plenty of competent observers of the international scene who take the view that the Communists do not want to come to a peaceful and honourable understanding with the rest of the world. They say it is only a waste of time to seek the settlement of any serious problem by negotiation. There has even been talk of using the threat of a "preventive war" as the only device likely to have any persuasive effect on international Communism.

Evidence to support these views is not lacking and yet, as the President suggests, to grow weary now of the processes of negotiation would be to undo all the good work—and there has been a great deal of it—that has been accomplished thus far. Then, indeed, the sacrifices of those who have fought and bled to resist aggression would be in vain. That there should be weariness and impatience in the councils of the United Nations is understandable, but only perseverance in the way of peace and concord, wherever this is possible, has any chance of saving mankind from the deep and dark abyss of destruction. "Be not weary in well-doing" must remain the watchword of free men, however trying and however hard the way may be.

Selling Surplus Cheese

An interesting experiment in overseas trade by an Ontario farm group is reported in the Ottawa Journal. Launched by the Ontario Cheese Producers' Marketing Board when it became apparent that a small surplus of cheese threatened to wreck the domestic market price and put a lot of small dairy farmers out of business, it now appears the experiment has been successful.

Traditionally Canada's surplus cheese has gone to the British market, for many years in huge quantities but more recently in modest amounts as the Canadian market for all dairy products expanded and less and less cheese became available for export. Bulk buying from low-cost countries, a shortage of dollars on the part of

the UK, plus other factors in recent years, threatened to wipe out Canada's cheese trade with Britain. Some has gone over under government subsidy but this was refused this year and it looked like the end of an old-established trade.

Faced with a cheese surplus, and loud complaints from their producers the Ottawa Cheese Marketing Board made a deal with the United Kingdom Ministry of Food in one of the last contracts made here by Sir Andrew Jones. The board agreed to take the best price the British would offer, 25 1/2 cents, for cheese which the board had accepted at 27 and 28 cents and for which the Prices Support Board in Ottawa was prepared to pay 30 cents on October 31. Through amendments secured to their marketing scheme in Toronto the Cheese Marketing Board made a two-cents-a-pound levy on all current and future make in Ontario, the resulting fund to be used to compensate those who contributed cheese to the 10-million-pound pool purchased by Britain.

The results, reports The Journal, have been beneficial all-around. Relieved of its surplus the cheese market has gone from 28 to over 33 cents within a few weeks, so that producers are receiving better returns, despite the levy. A good method of selling future surpluses has been established and a good market kept open. This was not dumping as the price at which the cheese was sold to the UK was competitive. And, considering prices here in general, it imposed no hardship on Canadian cheese consumers. It appears a sensible way for a high-economy country like Canada to keep its foreign trade.

EDITORIAL NOTES

President Eisenhower's habit of rising at 6 a.m. should not have seriously disturbed the French and British delegations at the recent Bermuda conference. After all in Paris and London that meant 10 a.m., a sufficiently civilized time for anyone to rise.

It is to be deplored that spokesmen should charge that Island fishermen would take small lobsters in any event. The general feeling of the P. E. I. Fishermen's Association annual meeting seems to have been that whatever regulations are made should be enforced.

What may be a turning point in the economy was announced by Mines Minister Prudham when he said that the Dominion Coal Board is prepared to take steps looking to the development of cheap electrical power from coal.

With the completion Thursday of the rotation of the 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade there ends an historic episode. The brigade constituted Canada's first peacetime contribution of land forces to international security. They "showed the flag" for this country in Germany, not as occupation troops but as defenders against possible aggression.

United States Secretary of Air Harold Talbot seems to be somewhat astray in his thinking when he spoke of northern base development as "paying off right now in terms of the apprehension it must cause". The danger is that apprehension would cause disastrous action where a feeling of security would have meant peace.

The grave concern expressed by the United Nations General Assembly at Red atrocities in Korea will justify in the eyes of the world the almost incredible American charges that nearly 38,000 U. N. soldiers and civilians were killed apart from normal deaths in battle. Since the First World War it has become increasingly obvious that war is not merely a threat, to civilization, it is the abnegation of civilization.

R. C. A. F. Maritime search-and-rescue operations, coastal patrol and transport work will soon be handled by United Kingdom designed Bristol Britannia aircraft. The replacements for the familiar Lancasters are sleek four-engined, propeller-and-gas-turbine, aircraft. About 50 of them will be produced at Canadair. They are reported to have a cruising speed of about 350 m.p.h.

George Grossmith, English actor and entertainer, was born this date 1847, died March 1, 1912. He gave up reporting for "The Times" to go on the stage, singing and playing comic songs. Seven years later he began a successful career as an actor in "The Sorcerer" and in many Gilbert and Sullivan operas, winning special distinction as the admiral in "Pinafore". His writings include "The Reminiscences of a Society Clown" and "The Diary of a Nobody." His two sons, Laurence and George, were both actors. The latter, who died in 1935, was prominent on the music hall stage during the period of the First World War.

The Saboteur



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.

AN ISLAND BALLAD

Sir,—We, who live in the western extremities of Nova Scotia, enjoy remarkable radio reception due to lack of interference offered by the Atlantic Ocean over which programmes are received from the entire eastern half of continental U. S. A.

At approximately 10:45 p.m. December 5th, I picked up a station which was broadcasting "Prince Edward Island Is Heaven To Me" and, being curious to learn the source of the broadcast, I waited for the station announcement and much to my surprise found that it was coming from Wheeling, West Virginia.

This peculiarly Prince Edward Island ballad is no literary masterpiece, but set as it is to a pleasing, "Come all ye" tune it has considerable listening appeal in groups of hearers who like barn dance and programmes of similar styles. Retaining, as I do, a certain nostalgia for the little red Island I was particularly pleased to hear this song about my native Province coming from a point so geographically remote. I am not writing, however, merely to record the event, but rather to suggest to the P. E. I. Tourist Bureau that they should ensure that a copy of this recording is in the record library of every broadcasting station on the continent. To this end I would recommend that they provide each station with the recording as a gift in the hope that its occasional use will bring rich tourist reward to the Province described in the song.

I don't know how many broadcasting stations there may be in Canada and U. S. A.—perhaps two thousand—but if you can get them all playing "Prince Edward Island Is Heaven To Me" for an expenditure of \$2000.00 I am sure that the Province will have made a rewarding investment.

I am, Sir, etc.

ULRIC G. DAWSON,
Yarmouth, N.S.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

HOMEWARD BOUND

"Passengers returning to P. E. Island by the boat from Point du Chene number about 400 per week, exclusive of children. The majority of these are American tourists but many are former residents of the Island returning home for good. A Monctonian on the train to Shediac one day recently ascertained that there were forty or fifty persons on board going back to P. E. I. from different parts of the States. They included six families and 20 to 30 young men and women. The Monctonian talked with several of them, and they long enough to find out that P. E. Island is the best place for them, and that if they worked as hard there as they are obliged to do in the States they would be better off. Most of these people had been away from three to five years, but one young man was returning after an experience of only about one month."

—Moncton Times, July 23, 1953.

The Age Old Story

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. . . . And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Kurt Myers' Comments On Canadian & Russian Armies

By Douglas How

As a prisoner in Canada for nearly six years, a prisoner remembered by his guards for model, uncomplaining behavior, Kurt Myers read widely and wrote a great deal in extraordinarily eloquent English. He wrote of many things but as interesting as anything he put down are his views on the Canadian and Russian armies for he fought them both and he frequently predicted that eventually they must fight one another.

Towards the Canadian Army which imprisoned him for responsibility for the shooting of war prisoners by others, Myers bore no outward malice on his writing or, informed people say, in his talk. He admitted much about it and, in fact, once suggested that Canadian and German soldiers should be teamed together by the Atlantic Pact powers in a corps for the defence of Europe. His analysis of it was detached and clinical and based primarily on the fighting along the Caen-Falaise road from Aug. 7-16, 1944, in which he commanded the 12th German S. S. division.

His judgment was that the Canadians robbed themselves of quick, easy victory there by excessive caution on top, plus the Russians would have fought the same battle to a far swifter, less hesitant conclusion. He wrote:

"The Canadian Army of 1944 was a high-class force . . . destined to fight an enemy who was, in manpower and equipment, inferior. Every Canadian operation bore the stamp of intensive planning and was built on sound tactical principles. Every opening phase was a complete success and the staff work a mathematical masterpiece. The staff always succeeded in transforming a defence position into a cemetery.

"The Canadian Army never followed up their opening successes to reach a complete victory. Every one of the Canadian attacks lost its push and determination after a few miles. . . . British and Canadian planning was absolutely without risk. Neither army employed its armored strength for which it was created. Both used the tank, more or less, as an infantry support weapon. . . . They executed their operations in an inflexible, time-wasting method. Never once did speed, the most powerful weapon of armored warfare appear."

Air and artillery attacks had wiped out the German defence line and laid the road to Falaise open the opening night, Myers wrote. But the Anglo-Canadian forces stuck to their step-by-step schedule and took Falaise, as planned, in eight days. The time they lost allowed the Germans to bring in reinforcements. Far worse, it allowed them great armored material and manpower to be saved to build up the units which later fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

"The Russians, wrote Myers, would probably have adopted a similar plan but "would have fought it through far differently. Above all, "they certainly would not permit a battle of phases with the first objective only three miles behind the enemy front line." At the first sign that the way was open, an armored column would have struck straight for Falaise under "a fanatical young Communist who would stop at nothing." This dynamic, up-front leadership the Canadians had lacked. The Canadians, on schedule, had used heavy bombers once the attack had started. The Russians would have used tactical planes as the young leader directed. In a matter of hours, instead of days, said Myers, Falaise would have fallen. For Russian leadership "knows the value of time."

It should be remembered that the Canadians at Falaise were comparatively new to battle while Meyer had fought the Russians for three years. The Red leaders of

1941 were no match for the German generals, he wrote, but within a year they produced leaders "who were sure tacticians with daring strategic minds."

"Their junior officers are well trained, fanatical and brutal commanders. Their armored force is excellent. Its tanks are the best in the world. The tank men are handpicked, good mechanics and very skillful in improvisation. Russian infantrymen are bad soldiers by western standards but they are the most savage fighters in attack, the most desperate. I have never encountered. Death seemed meaningless to them."

If, in the new war he considers inevitable, the Russians ever run Europe they would soon have German, French and other divisions because those people would prefer the battlefield to Siberia, Myers wrote. To prevent this he repeatedly advocated the rearming of Germany but not in the old way. A new German national army would be a retrograde step. Germany must be woven into a Western European federation and her soldiers must be part of that grand design, inspired by the ideal of a united Europe.

"The rejection of nationalism by this once-fanatical follower of the warped nationalism of Hitler, his apparently fervent acceptance of the concept of European union are probably the salient features of all writings that poured from Kurt Meyer's typewriter behind the bars of Dorchester, N. B.

The Poet's Corner

WINTER FIELD
Sorrow on the acres,
Wind in the thorn,
And an old man plowing
Through the frosty morn

A flock of the dark birds
Rooks and their wives,
Follow the plow team
The old man drives;

And troops of starlings,
A-tittle-tat and prim,
Follow the rooks
That follow him.

—A. E. Coppard.

Six-Foot Lobsters

(Saint John Telegraph-Journal)

History has told us a lot of tall tales about big men, big pumpkins and big mosquitoes, but Mrs. Myrtle Evans of the New York Historical Society has found a fish story in the records of New York's first Thanksgiving Day back in 1644 that will provoke great guffaws among the lobster fishermen of New Brunswick.

It seems that the early New Englanders were as fond of superlatives as the modern Texan. The description Mrs. Evans has found of that first harvest celebration is in great detail and refers to sixty-pound turkeys which were brought to the feast. Of course, turkeys ran wild in those days and perhaps some of them did grow to that size. But we are dubious about the six-foot native lobsters that appeared on the menu. The Pilgrims were really thankful for their boundaries.

If a six-foot granddaddy lobster showed up in a fisherman's catch these days he'd be inclined to take the pledge—the fisherman, that is. However, times have changed, and lobsters may have been bigger 200 years ago. A twelve-pound crustacean is considered a big one these days, but there are authentic records of Atlantic coast lobsters weighing up to thirty-four pounds and measuring two feet in length, the claw being as much as fifteen inches by twenty inches. Lobsters aren't as big as they used to be,

The Passing Scene

By Observer

Sometimes during the summer I devoted three articles to headline news taken from some bound volumes of an American periodical published approximately one hundred years ago. Since these articles appeared quite a few readers have asked for more of the same fare.

Well, the United States government was trying to purchase Cuba. For some strange reason the Spaniards were not anxious to sell it at any price. The editor of the magazine asked, "Why?" He was asked, "Does Spain turn up her august nose at the idea of selling Cuba to this country? Apparently it never occurred to him that the Cubans themselves should be given some say in the matter.

Spain was mentioned in another place, too. According to a report just received "every village in Spain is required by law to have at least one resident surgeon. One of his duties is to shave all the paid-payers once a week. He is paid in corn." A report from London brought the news that a barber there (not a surgeon) had established a tontorial record by shaving eighty men in thirty minutes.

A pretty story came out of Vermont. It seems that the governor of that state owned quite a large farm which was operated by hired "hands." On one occasion visitors came from Albany, N. Y. When lunch time arrived they were shocked to see the governor and his lady sit down with the hired men. Later in the day one of the visitors said to the lady of the house: "Surely you don't make a practice of eating with the hired hands?" "Yes, we do," she replied. "Personally I don't think it is right that we who sit around all day should eat at the first table with those who are doing all the work. The just thing would be to serve them first and ourselves afterwards, but the governor says the men don't mind, so we all eat together."

A man who had been committed to an asylum following failure in business, was trying to get out on the grounds that he was being held without cause. This is how he explained the situation to the court: "I am in the asylum because of a mistake in business. I was engaged during the winter in making mosquito wings which I expected to sell in the summer. I had ten thousand on hand when the season opened but, unfortunately, I had forgotten to make

them, and the fisheries department claims that the great demand for the sea delicacy and the prominence of the trade from Labrador to Cape Hatteras doesn't give the lobster much time to grow. But a six-foot lobster! Well, we just can't swallow that one.

them in pairs. They were all left-hand wings and consequently I lost the sale of them and could not pay my bills." The judge thought that in the circumstances it might be just as well for the man to stay where he was for the time being.

A little further down in the news column was this item: "Miss Dix, the celebrated philanthropist, has recently been on an errand of mercy to Prince Edward Island inquiring into the condition and wants of the insane. And a woman in Ohio petitioned the court to have her husband committed to an asylum "because, your honour, he is a confounded fool." Lacking further evidence the petition was refused. "It would be a dangerous precedent to establish," the court commented.

A Professor Mitchell was going around the country lecturing on "The great problems of the world." Commented the editor: "It is hard to see how the problems could get worse." What would he say if he could catch a glimpse of the 1953 version?

A woman in Pennsylvania had been arrested for wearing slacks on the street and fined ten dollars. "Wear slacks in words," she told the court, "the time will come when slacks on women will be more respectable than pantaloons on men." There was a prophetic for you!

In New York a man had been charged with breaking the peace. It seems that he had broken his wife's hoops, a contraption which had just come into general use. He was acquitted. Said the judge: "I could never punish a man for doing something I myself had been wanting to do for some time."

Some medical discoveries had just been announced. A New York physician claimed that rubbing the limbs with brandy (no other liquor would do) was a sure cure for rheumatism. Another was of the opinion that the common cold and kindred ailments would disappear if everybody could be persuaded to wear plain woolen flannel next to the skin winter and summer. Still another had found that heavy drinkers hardly ever become alcoholics. For this reason he advocated legislation making compulsory the drinking of huge quantities of tea by everybody over sixteen.

A new school of medicine for the study of "magnetopathy" had recently been opened. Whatever happened to that?

BRIGHT PLUMAGE

The male scarlet tanager is a bright scarlet bird with black wings but the female is greenish in color.

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