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

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1950

The St. Roch

High adventure is linked with the task of opening up territory for trade, defence purposes and weather observation in the epic of the little R. C. M. P. patrol vessel, St. Roch. Already the only ship to have made a return trip through the Northwest Passage, the 323-ton craft now assures her fame by being the first vessel to circumnavigate the North American continent.

Sgt. Frederick Farrar, third mate, is the only member of the original crew which left Halifax six years ago and is consequently the first man to sail completely around the continent.

Cabot, Willoughby, Frobisher, Davis, Barents, Hudson, Button, Cook, Parry, Franklin, Ross, Collinson and others sought the N. W. Passage in vain. McClure, with the aid of a rescue party in 1854, actually accomplished the passage. Amundsen discovered the N. W. Passage over Franklin's route. The N. E. Passage was accomplished by Nordenskjold in the Vega (1879), by Wilkitsky with two icebreakers in 1915, and by Amundsen in the Maud 1919-20. The round trip, however, is the unique accomplishment of Staff-Sgt. (now Inspector) H. A. Larsen and the St. Roch, and credit for the circumnavigation of the continent belongs to the St. Roch and Sgt. Farrar.

Larsen's first voyage from Vancouver lasted from June 21, 1940 until Oct. 8, 1942. He made a short north voyage out of Halifax in 1943 and the return voyage by the Northwest Passage between July 19, 1944 and Oct. 16, 1944.

Worse Than Crime Comics

Timely protest has been made in Parliament by Mr. W. D. Wylie, Social Credit member for Medicine Hat, against the spate of obscene literature with which newsstands across the country are being flooded. The proprietors claim to be powerless in the matter, if they want to stay in business.

The pushing of this trash appears to be a deliberate campaign on the part of a publishing cartel in Montreal and Toronto, to offset the Act passed at the last session banning crime comics. Mr. Wylie argues that the only way it can be stopped is an attack on the fountainhead. The publishers tell the distributors in the small centres that they must put these books on their newsstands or they will lose their licenses.

Some excellent cheap reprints are issued along with the salacious literature, and these are doled out to the stores on condition that the trash goes on display along with them. Thus a potent means of entertainment and enlightenment, through mass production methods which have revolutionized the publishing industry, is exploited brazenly for pornographic purposes.

The fact that our newsdealers are obliged to act as vendors of obscenity is a serious enough matter. But what of the effect on adolescent minds, exposed to this campaign at every turn? There is always a danger in invoking the power of censorship, but in this case the racket has gone so far as to constitute a very real menace to public morals.

Life In Russia

The British Foreign Office has completed a study of the results of the revaluation of the Russian ruble at the end of February and its figures are interesting.

They show to begin with that the wages of skilled Russian workers range from 500 to 1,500 rubles a month, or \$126 to \$378. Unskilled workers, the vast majority of the people, receive about 250 rubles, or \$63 a month. But the important question, as with all money wages, is what the Russian's earnings will buy.

The answer to this question is to be found in the price of essential goods within Russia. Taking the new value of the ruble as 25 cents, the British Government states the prices of various Russian goods, in dollar terms, as follows:

Black bread: 50 cents for a two-pound loaf.
Milk: 50 cents a pint.
Chocolate: \$16.80 to \$25 a pound.
Beef: \$4.34 a kilo (2.2 pounds).
Ham: \$5.60 a pound.
Toilet soap: 70 cents a cake.
Women's shoes: from \$63 to \$134 a pair.

Men's shoes: from \$50 to \$117 a pair. These are figures to be pondered by those who imagine that Communism is creating Utopia in Russia. There are not many Communists in North America. There would be fewer if people understood that under Communism a pint of milk costs 50 cents, meat over \$2 a pound, and shoes more than

the cost of a suit of clothes here. When such prices are reckoned against Russian wages it will be seen that the ordinary Russian lives in a state of poverty beside which a man in North America, unemployed and on relief, lives like a king.

EDITORIAL NOTES

West Kent School cadet inspection runs afternoon.

The Drama Festival finals are proceeding, to the accompaniment of satisfaction on all sides, except that King's should certainly have been represented.

Deepest sympathy will be extended from all over the Province to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Grant who lost their baby in the fire which destroyed their home at Martinvale on Saturday.

The Empress Josephine died this date 1814. Napoleon divorced her, (whom he had married in March 1796, on the eve of his departure to take command in Italy), and espoused the Archduchess Marie Louise of Austria.

The Motorcycle Club will serve a most useful purpose if it instills into its membership the principles of safe driving. It should never be forgotten that the minor accident which means a crumpled fender to the car driver, can well mean a broken leg to the motorcyclist.

McGill University has conferred honorary degrees by the Chancellor, Chief Justice Tyndale, at the spring convocation on Colonel J. J. Astor, Lord Woolton, Sir Alexander Cadogan, and Mr. Arthur E. Wood, chairman of the board of the Sur Life Assurance Company, Montreal.

Ten years ago, on May 29, 1941, an official German communique announced that the fate of the British and French armies on the continent was sealed. Beaten and driven into the channel, it appeared that nothing short of a miracle could save them. It happened.

Ottawa, having played host to Prime Minister Pandit Nehru of India, is now entertaining his opposite number from Pakistan, Liaquat Ali Khan. It is well that the world, and the Commonwealth are large enough for them to have each been welcomed by this country without embarrassment to either host or guest.

Canada has only one dentist for every 3,000 persons, Dr. Don Gullette, of Toronto, secretary of the Canadian Dental Association, reports. He called this ratio "totally inadequate." Every dental school in Canada is filled with student dentists and there is a waiting list, but additional financial help from government and private sources is needed if the demand is to be met, he said.

The Government's action in dropping charges against wartime deserters from the armed forces may or may not have been prudent from the point of view of discipline, but the final step of forgiving those who deserted overseas became essential from the moment that charges were dropped against those who deserted on this side of the Atlantic.

A correspondent of the Ottawa Citizen objects to the use of the term "watershed" to mean the area of collection and drainage slope of a river, instead of the high land dividing the waters that flow in one direction from those that flow in another. He might well have added that the "Red River Valley" means far more to most people than does the "Red River Watershed."

That astute politician, Premier Duplessis, intimates that his Party will not oppose the election to the Legislature of the new Liberal Party Leader, Georges Emile LePalme, for one of the eight Liberal seats held by the Party. "Mr. LePalme claims to be a fighter," said the Premier. "We offer him an easy fight since the government will put up no candidate." If no Liberal member wants to offer his seat to the new chief, the premier added, "the conclusion is easy to draw."

Col. J. J. Astor, chairman of The Times and president of the Empire Press Union, entertained recently a distinguished group of commonwealth editors and publishers at his London home, preliminary to setting out for Canada. Guests of honor were H.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. Others attending included Sir Harry Brittain, founder of the E. P. U.; Maj-Gen. Lord Burnham, managing editor of the Daily Telegraph; Sir Frank Newnes, vice-president of the British Periodical Publishers Association; and Walton Cole, editor of Reuters News Agency. The gathering brought together most of the advance guard of delegates to the seventh imperial press conference which opens in Ottawa June 8. The first group of delegates will sail from Liverpool today aboard the Empress of Scotland.

Needed: A Larger Shoe

There was an old woman who lived in a shoe



If the shoe fits

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.

CRAPAUD INCORPORATION

Sir,—It is felt by many of the good people of Crapaud that the Government of this Province was very ill-advised in introducing at their last session an Act governing the incorporation of small villages. If it was the intention of the Government, in introducing this legislation, to promote discord and dissension in these villages, then their objective has certainly been fully met as far as Crapaud is concerned. We hear much these days of a "cold war". A war is fast developing here in Crapaud, that promises to be anything but cold, over the result of the recent plebiscite. Some fear the introduction of this Act so keenly they are already planning if and when it becomes operative here to dispose of their property and move out. It is felt by many the introduction of this legislation here will prove a very bad thing for Crapaud, particularly for those in the lower income brackets. Future generations, it is thought will note this date of May 22, 1950, as the date that marked the beginning of the decline of Crapaud. Prospective home seekers and home builders will avoid this place as they would a plague because of a steadily mounting spiral of taxation that inevitably follows the incorporation of any small place. In regard to the election itself which was carried out on May 22 a full and careful investigation would seem to be indicated. It is alleged that the list of names sent the Sheriff and on which he based his decision to call this election contained names of persons living quite outside this electoral zone. It is thought if this proves to be correct the election should be declared void on this count alone. The publication of this list would at once clear up this point. It is further alleged that only persons known to favor this incorporation scheme were chosen as scrutineers, the negative side of the issue being unrepresented. It is also alleged that persons known to favor incorporation and who were quite ineligible to vote were allowed to do so. In fact the whole affair seems to have left behind an unsavory odor. It should be clearly understood, however, that in none of these allegations was the Sheriff in any way to blame, as far as he was able to judge everything being correctly done. I am, Sir, etc., A VOICE FROM THE PEOPLE Crapaud, P.E.I.

(With regard to the above complaints, Sheriff Beaton states (1) that the list of names submitted on which he based his decision to call the election, did not contain the names of any persons living outside the electoral zone; (2) that the scrutineers were appointed at a duly called meeting of the community, and (3) that anyone with personal property of the value of \$325 was entitled to vote.—Ed. G.)

Lack of power has been a factor which has retarded New Brunswick's industrial growth and it is gratifying to note that the government is aggressively seeking a solution to the problem. In the last ten years the generating capacity of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission has been increased from 27,200 horsepower to 87,295 horsepower, through steam turbine and Diesel installations and the purchase of plants from private companies. The harnessing of the Tobique will mean a further increase of twenty-three per cent in the total generating capacity and help meet the rapidly-growing requirements of the province. The estimated cost of the project, which works out to \$380 per horsepower, is low enough to make it a sound proposition, experts say. Dr. T. H. Hogg, of Toronto, who has been retained as consulting engineer, is one of the world's best-known authorities on hydro power. The Tobique is a famous salmon stream but the federal department of fisheries has given assurance that properly constructed fishways will safeguard the angling. There will be a dam on the Tobique at the Narrows and smaller dams at the outlets of four lakes in Victoria County which are to be used for storage.

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The Age-Old Story

If that nation against whom I have pronounced turn from their evil ways, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

COAST GUARD SCHOOL

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Tobique Hydro Project

(St. John Telegraph Journal) Premier J. B. MacNair has just announced that a 20,000-horsepower hydro plant will be built at the Narrows, on the Tobique River, just above Perth, at an estimated cost of \$3,500,000. Construction is expected to be started this summer.

The premier characterized the development as the "first step" in an expanding hydro program. While he did not go into detail it is known that several other projects of a similar nature are under consideration. The last annual report of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission said: "With the greater cost of all fuels, the desirability for the extended use of water power is evident. The commission has, therefore, undertaken the hydroelectric investigation of a number of sites and has considerable data in this respect on the Tobique, Magogadatic and Shogomoc rivers. The diversion of the waters of the Lepreau to the West Branch of the Musquash is being studied and a topographical survey is in progress on the Tetaoche River."

Little can be done on the St. John unless storage rights can be obtained on the headwaters of the river in Maine so that a fairly constant flow of water will be assured through the year. The Resources Development Board Chairman, Dr. H. J. Rowley, interviewed Governor Frederick G. Payne, of Maine, about this a few days ago, and the question will probably be referred to the Canada-U. S. International Joint Commission.

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IN NATIONAL GALLERY

OTTAWA, May 29 — (CP) — A painting by the Pakistani artist, Abdur Rehman Chughtai, soon will hang in the National Gallery, a gift from the people of Pakistan to the people of Canada. Shortly after his arrival here tomorrow Pakistan's Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, will present the painting to Prime Minister St. Laurent. The "line-drawing", three feet by four feet in size, depicts a lady with her three handmaidens. It will subsequently be turned over to the National Gallery.

The Poet's Corner

The farmhouse skyline, draped with trees, Is like a summer coast, green-boughed; The cattle drift on rolling seas Of lucious field against curled cloud. They move as lazy ships, wave-borne; Their bodies glisten sharply red. With shaggy brow and curving horn, Large wagging ear, grass-bending head, With dainty hoof and solemn lurch They munch along their quiet search. —Alan Creighton

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

THE SELKIRK ESTATE

In February, 1868, a committee of the Executive Council comprising Hon. Benj. Davies and Hon. R. P. Haythorne met to inquire into the results of the purchase and resale of the Selkirk Estate, and elicited the following information from Hon. John Aldous, Commissioner of Lands:

The Estate cost the Government \$9,918 6s. 9d. It was priced to realize the sum of \$21,890 7s. 8d., which sum included 20 per cent on the arrears of rent; subsequently, however, it was priced to realize \$15,145 2s. 6d., independently of the returns realizable from 20,000 acres of wilderness land, unlet by the former proprietor.

The Estate lay in Townships 53, 57, 58, 59, 60 and 62 and was divided into six classifications, according to the prices charged the tenants as follows: 4,518 acres at 10s.; 4,787 acres at 9s.; 7,451 acres at 8s.; 10,571 acres at 7s. 6d.; 508 acres at 6s. 6d.; 12,440 acres at 6s.

The Pinette Mills, with 200 acres of land, was held under agreement by Mr. Dixon at the yearly rental of \$55. The wilderness land on Lot 53, chiefly swamps, comprised about 2,200 acres, 1,700 acres of which was considered valueless.

Wilderness land on Lot 57 comprised about 500 available acres. Wilderness land on Lot 58, about 4,000 acres, mostly hardwood; soil light and gravelly.

Wilderness land on Lot 59 situated on the Whim Road; about 1,500 acres, a great portion of inferior quality. Wilderness land on Lot 60 chiefly well wooded, but soil light; about 7,000 acres.

Wilderness land on Lot 62, about 6,000 acres; a great portion barren, excepting some hardwood at the rear of the Wood Island farms. On the 31st January, 1867, the sums paid by the purchasers amounted to \$12,889 17s. 10d., which amount was not deemed sufficient to cover the first cost, interest of money, and working expenses, so as to make the purchase self-sustaining in accordance with the provisions of the Land Purchase Act. The Commissioner, however, was "decidedly of opinion that the settlers had been overcharged, and that instead of ten separate instalments being exacted of them, seven would be amply sufficient, and that those purchasers who had paid in over the seventh instalment should have the overplus refunded."

The Committee concurred in this view of the Land Commissioner, adding that in their opinion "the predecessors of this Government in the Colony misapprehended the duty devolving upon them, in pricing the lands of this Estate."

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PASTORAL

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Notes By The Way

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, advocates higher wages and lower prices, but he doesn't tell how the two will work together. If wages go up, costs are bound to rise, how can there be lower prices? Mr. Green should explain —Lethbridge Herald.

The Japanese nono-merarian who has just arrived is one of the truly great men of the last century. Yukio Ozaki is securely ensconced in Australian history as the mayor of Tokio who in 1908 sent some 3,000 young cherry trees to our Capital as a token of thanks for American help in ending the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05. What a singularly felicitous gesture it was! — Washington Post

Animals are easily confused if they find a car bearing down on them, and it is impossible to avoid hitting some. But a large proportion of killings could be avoided. Many motorists do not make the slightest attempt to slow down or veer to one side to avoid hitting a dog or a cat. The killing of a cat or a dog may seem a small thing in itself, but to the owners, or to the owners' little son or daughter, the mangling of a pet is a real tragedy. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

The world needs the Irish Empire, by whatever name it may be called. We need it. Let us recapture the old pride. Let us restate the old faith. You and I are Australians. We are also British.

ish. We do not and cannot think of the people of the other British nations as foreign people. They are all within the great British tradition—a tradition which has given to the world the spirit and machinery of self-government free institutions, justice within the law. The old Empire has become a confederation of nations, each with its rights of self-government unchallenged and unchallengeable. But it will make its best contribution to the rest of the twentieth century only if we seek closer collaboration, unity of policy on Government matters, a renewed sense of a common task. — By Prime Minister Menzies of Australia.

The British House of Commons has granted a pension of 20 pounds a year to Willie Gallacher, the Communist who was defeated in the last election. Mr. Gallacher is old and sick, he needs the financial aid that Parliament has given him from its private fund. It is well that the members who were plagued by his opinions so long have thought now of his need instead of his politics. No matter how stormy is the economic and political weather, all is well in Westminster. A parliament that refuses to pass judgment on a man for his opinions is democratic in the true sense of that much abused word. And all is well in the English Island. "Thú happy breed of men" who are citizens are not infected by the fears and suspicions that plague the peoples of "less happier lands" —Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

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