

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, NOV. 17, 1952

Caribbean Federation

The Spanish Main of history and romance is in a fair way to become the latest British Dominion. As a preliminary step the legislatures of the four main groups concerned, Jamaica, Trinidad, the Leeward Islands and the Windward Islands have agreed to federate and next spring will send representatives of their legislatures to London to discuss terms. A conference at Montego Bay in 1947 recommended that a federal constitution for the British West Indies should take as its model that of Australia. Two committees in recent years have studied the problems involved and recommended federation as "the shortest path towards a real political independence for the British people of the region." Trinidad was recommended as the capital and it is not without significance that the new University of the West Indies was established there.

The problems of the West Indies are largely economic. The islands are heavily over-populated and although the British Government has undertaken to grant £1,000,000 a year for twenty years to finance schemes for the general improvement of social conditions, the greatest hope of the islands is the proposal to have the mainland colonies of the region absorb 100,000 people over a ten-year period.

Federation is hoped to bring with it greater trade within the area and consequently a higher standard of living but the West Indies must always find vast markets for their sugar, molasses, rum, tobacco, fruit and asphalt. It has been experienced before, of course, that the whole can be greater than the sum of the parts and Canada will watch with sympathy fellow members of the Commonwealth taking the steps which we ourselves took over eighty years ago.

No Famine Reserves Needed

A special working party of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations recommended recently, according to the Northwestern Miller, against the establishment of special famine grain reserves under the auspices of the United Nations for use, where necessary, to relieve famine conditions in United Nations member countries.

The five-man working party included representatives from the United States, United Kingdom, India, Australia and France. This committee recommended that any grain which may be needed from time to time for relief in member countries can most economically and satisfactorily be provided from regular supplies on hand in the various countries and handled and distributed through regular trade channels. The working party was concerned only with the mechanics of handling and distributing such relief grain, and was not concerned with the financial, diplomatic or political problems associated with the question.

The U. S. representative, Carl C. Farington believed that any program the U. N. ultimately adopts, might be set up to operate within the framework of the International Wheat Agreement, should that agreement be renewed prior to its expiry next July.

Canada - U.S. Trade

The significant change undergone in Canada's trade with the United States is analyzed in a recently published report, "The Sterling Area: an American Analysis", by the London mission of the Mutual Security Agency. Traditionally Canada has sold about 65 per cent of her exports in overseas markets, the other 35 per cent in the United States. In recent years the pattern has reversed. It is a development that has taken place because of Canada's geographic position, and, in the opinion of the Agency mission above quoted, is a natural and inevitable one, beneficial to both buyers and sellers.

"As long ago as 1886 the United States had become a greater source of Canadian imports than the United Kingdom. By 1901 more than 60 per cent of our imports were coming from the United States and only 24 per cent from Britain. The U. K. was still the better customer for things Canada had to sell, taking half of our total exports while the U. S. only took 38 per cent. In 1938 Canadian imports from and exports to the United States were

of about the same importance in percentage terms, as they had been at the beginning of the century. But Britain now took only 40 per cent of the exports and supplied only 20 per cent of the imports.

In the post-war years the United States as a buyer of Canadian produce and an exporter to this country continued to grow in importance while the trade with the United Kingdom was proportionately less. In the period 1949-50, for example, 70 per cent of Canada's imports came from the U. S. and only 12 per cent from Britain while 58 per cent of Canada's exports went to the U. S. and only 20 per cent to the United Kingdom.

Gamma Ray Canning

On this 200th anniversary year of the first canner's birth, the Windsor Star notes that a new and ultra-modern process for preserving food is believed to have been found. It is as modern as the atomic age, with the gamma rays of radio-activity killing the micro-organisms that hasten decay.

In an elaborate "radiation cave" set up at the University of Michigan, cobalt-60 from Canada's Chalk River plant is being used to provide the sterilizing power. Canning, in fact, may become a secondary use for the "cobalt bomb."

Under this process the meat or vegetables would be canned raw, and the time and expense of cooking saved at the processing level. While this procedure may not commend itself to those who prefer canned goods because usually they're cooked, it still offers promise of a simplified way to preserve food.

Simplified, that is, as far as big plants are concerned. "Radiation caves" aren't likely to become household appliances, even if the cost price eventually drops to \$1,000,000 or so. No housewife will want to have her kitchen cluttered up with gamma rays, and insulating walls 14 feet thick, and so far no atomic canner appears to have found a way to avoid them.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Farmers and others will be watching with interest the results of an Experimental Farm investigation on the merits of various proportions of grass silage feeding of cattle. Grass is one of our most important crops in this Province and its practical use in winter an important consideration.

Not many Maritime communities can, like Summerside, announce several types of industrial expansion in one day. Canada Packers Ltd. are extending their fertilizer plant there and a local business man, Mr. Kaye Hansen, is establishing a modern meat curing plant to produce smoked meats.

The Canadian Dollar has been having its ups and downs recently. The possibility of it going to par or to a discount on the American Dollar will not greatly concern people here. There was some moral satisfaction in our Dollar's show of strength, but the practical advantages are nearly all in favour of some depreciation.

The trend towards bigger and more powerful cars is not universal by any means. A U. K. firm has introduced a 2 1/2 passenger (two adults and a child) three-wheeled car which does 60-70 miles to the gallon. It has a motorcycle type two-stroke rear engine and will cruise at 35 m.p.h.

The high cost of learning, like the high cost of living, is painful but must rise to very great heights indeed before it can be said to be not worth it. Charlottetown citizens are no more fond of paying taxes than any others but their children are entitled to a fair educational start in life which must, of course, be paid for.

One of the more encouraging signs of the age is the ready exchange of ideas. There is no one-way traffic in brains. Sir George Henry Henderson, K.B.E., Secretary of the Department of Health for Scotland, is in North America at the invitation of the Governments of Canada and the United States, for consultations with officials on housing and health. Sir George expects to be back in Britain on December 15.

Field-Marshal Sir Bernard Law Montgomery of Alamein, first Viscount, was born this date 1887. Entering the army in 1908, he served in both World Wars, being mentioned in dispatches in the First. He commanded the British 3rd Division at the outbreak of war and in the Dunkirk evacuation. He succeeded General Ritchie as commander of the Eighth Army under Alexander in August 1942, repelled Rommel's assaults and completely routed the German marshal, retaking Italy's African empire. In the summer of 1944 he led the Allied land forces in the great victory of the battle of Normandy.

Intermission



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.

INDEPENDENT KILLING PLANT

Sir,—In Thursday's paper I read a letter headed "President Yeo Replies." As a member of the Federation of Agriculture of P. E. I., I think this is a question of vital interest to every farmer in the Province. The first time I knew of this proposal of Mr. Wheatley's for an independent killing plant to be erected at Charlottetown, was at Hunter River in 1951, when he brought the subject before the meeting and asked for the support of the F.O.A. At that time the Federation was supposed to be free from politics; also non-sectarian, and I think Mr. Wheatley's proposal got the support of a great number of farmers. His complaint at that time was that the present killing plant, namely the Canada Packers at Charlottetown, would not kill and chill meat for export for any one individual for the Newfoundland Trade.

I took no notice of this question at that meeting and I am only writing from memory; but I do think that Mr. Wheatley's proposal got the support of a great number of farmers. Just why the Federation of Agriculture knowing that such a plant would benefit all the farmers of P. E. I. because of cheaper freight rates for chilled meats, to Newfoundland, do not give their moral support is, I think, a question for Mr. Yeo to answer at the Queen's annual meeting. The Queen's County F.O.A. to be held this fall in Charlottetown. I am, Sir, etc., J. E. GORMAN, South Melville, P.E.I.

MORE INFORMATION WANTED

Sir,—Regarding my criticism of the refusal of the Federation of Agriculture to give moral support to try and ascertain if a subsidy was available on a public killing plant, I must add I attended a few meetings with them in company with other shippers, but only one alone. The attitude of some was such that anything further was useless.

The Federal Health of Animals Division requires the plans or blueprints of a plant, and the idea is to work on them until everything is satisfactory, then build and after completion obtain Federal inspection of plant. Meat inspection from the Animals Division is granted anyone who builds a plant whether for cattle, poultry, hogs, etc., and inspection can be full time or part time. Mr. Yeo's argument of moral support from the City is misleading and was taken up at the Federation meeting. With regard to his complaints about my public writing just prior to elections, etc., I might add the last Provincial election was a snap one with only three weeks notice; so unless someone was very much interested in politics this point would hardly have been raised.

The Queen's County resolution named Mr. Earl Ings and myself, with instructions to pick four more people, and study the Newfoundland trade problem. Yet at the first meeting of directors' after these meetings they decided to send two of the Federation to wait on the Government and Mr. Dewar told me himself we were not supposed to act. I had made two or three trips to see Mr. Ings and he said we could do nothing, and that he felt we were not wanted, especially myself, why? Now how long did it take this delegation to meet the Government to see what to do? I think it would have been much wiser if the Federation had left well enough alone—at any rate they took from July to October-November. At this meeting it was decided to send Mr. Dewar to Ottawa to see if a boat subsidy was available; and if the Federation had any intention to try

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) UNPAID TAXES

"At the monthly meeting of the City Council last evening, Councillor Koughan called attention to the list of unpaid taxes for the last and previous year. He said the list contained the names of men who were as well able to pay taxes as he was. He was surprised to see on it the names of property-holders and men whom he knew had money in the bank. It also contained the names of men said, by the collector, to be off the island, who were here now and never away at all. He thought it absurd that certain names on the list should be written off, and asked for a special committee to inquire into the matter. "After an explanation by Councillor Byrne, showing that the late Finance Committee were not to blame in writing off certain names, a committee consisting of Councillors Koughan, Morris and Lawson, was appointed to scrutinize the list." —The Examiner, April 12, 1951.

and iron out any problems other than get the Government out of the mess they were in, why did they not wait until the two meetings with shippers were held? This is the proof of their intentions. Some thing is being held back from farmers and now let us look at the minutes of these meetings, where in one they voted for a plant and in the second voted against it. The following letter in my possession is dated July 2, 1952. "Mr. Woodrow Wheatley, East Royalty, P.E.I. Dear Woodrow: In reply to your request of July 7th for the minutes of trade meetings held last fall, I may say that minutes were apparently not kept of these meetings. At least the Federation of the Department of Industries and Natural Resources, by which the meetings were called, did not have a secretary acting. If there is any specific information which you require I will be only too glad to try and obtain it. Sincerely yours, J. L. Dewar, Secretary, P. E. I. Federation of Agriculture

At this point I would like to point out that Mr. Yeo took the chair in the first meeting with shippers, and I sat alongside of Mr. Dewar and watched him take minutes of this meeting. Where is Mr. McIsaac's report of his trip to Newfoundland? About three weeks ago I had a nice dual purpose bull weighing 1300 lbs. for which our local meat packers offered me .13 per lb. alive, namely \$169.00, but I sold the same animal at public auction in Newfoundland for \$299.00 less freight and commission.

Let each farmer ask himself if I was asking too much when I asked the Federation of Agriculture for moral support on behalf of a public killing plant which would be open to all. I am, Sir, etc., WOODROW WHEATLEY, East Royalty, P. E. I.

APPRECIATION

Sir,—The Press has been most kind in reporting the South Shore Musical Festival, held in Summerside last Friday and Saturday, and has done everything in its power to "give credit where credit is due". However, as one behind the scenes, I feel that there were certain persons concerned in the Festival's success, about whom the friends of the organization would like to hear, and I again turn to your column. The idea of expanding the Festival to include schools of over five rooms was accepted by the executive in September, only a short time before it, and there was some doubt as to the success of the Friday session. We have to thank Mrs. Henry Badger, director of music Kensington school; Rev. L. M. Murray, Kensington; Mr. Thomas Hall, Summerside; and Mr. Murray Shanks, principal of the A/M G.O. Johnson School, for the success of

The Poet's Corner

MOO!

Summer is over, the old cow said, And they'll shut me up in a draughty shed To milk me by lamplight in the cold But I won't give much for I am old. It's long ago that I came here Gay and slim as a woodland deer; It's long ago that I heard the roar Of Smith's white bull by the sycamore. And now there are bones where my flesh should be; My backbone sags like an old roof tree. And an apple snatched in a moment's frolic Is just so many days of colic. I'm neither a Jersey nor Holstein now But only a faded sort of a cow. My calves are veal and I had as lief That I could lay me down as beef: Somehow, they always kill by halves. Why not take me when they take my calves? Birch turns yellow and sumac red. I've seen this all before, she said. I'm tired of the field and tired of the shed. There's no more grass, there's no more clover; Summer is over, summer is over. —Robert Hillyer.

The Age-Old Story

As one whom his mother comforted, so will I comfort you: and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem. the Friday session. Mrs. Badger and Rev. Murray brought four choirs and numerous other entries to the Festival, all of which were of such excellent quality that you have read of them in the list of winners published by this paper. We must tender our thanks for such co-operation, and comment upon Mrs. Badger's remarkable achievement, especially as she was ill shortly before the Festival. Mr. Hall added greatly to the Friday evening session by entering the Summerside High School Glee Club. He was assisted by Mr. C. G. Chaisson. Mr. Murray A. Shanks, of the A/M G.O. Johnson school encouraged all his pupils to enter wholeheartedly into the competition, and he himself, gave every possible assistance to the project. One of the most exacting duties of the festival is the handling of the adjudicator's comments about the competitors, and the arranging of the marks for the Press and the special trophy awards. This task has been done, for a number of years, by the same competent person, Mrs. J. A. Thomson, North Tryon. I think all the children and their parents would be glad to tender her their thanks through your column. This year she was assisted in her difficult task by Mrs. Sheldon Howatt, Tryon. We want them to know her name also. Moreover, we must not forget that we could not have held a festival, if it were not for the co-operation of the Summerside School Board, of which Mr. D. O. Stewart is President, the Summerside School Supervisor, Mr. Clarence Mercer, and the Board of Trustees of the Summerside Baptist Church. To all of these we tender our sincere thanks and to your column for making it possible for us to reach them. I am, Sir, etc., HOPE JONES, Tryon, P. E. I.

Notes By The Way

It wasn't all one-sided when a party of Alberta men went out hunting coyotes—three of the animals were killed but two hunters ended up in hospital with bullet wounds. Kitchener is fortunate in that an English firm manufacturing stainless steel for the building of a foundry here. This looks like a manufacturing enterprise that holds interesting possibilities. Its future expansion may eventually provide jobs for 300. — Kitchener-Waterloo Record. An expert says the dream of helicopter taxis able to land in the average backyard or the roof of an office building is still just a dream, and likely to be no more than that for a long time. Perhaps it's just as well. We should hate to see the sky cluttered up with aircraft as the streets are filled with motor cars, but at least the cars do not shut out the sun. —Ottawa Journal. So far the government has bought and canned about 57,000,000 pounds of surplus pork at a total cost of 60 cents a pound. It is trying to dispose of these enormous stocks at 40 cents a pound, but even at giveaway prices the government has been able to get rid of only a little more than a third of the stock. —Victoria Colonist. Canadians are interested in American politics, not only because the two nations adjoin and have so much in common, but also because future American policy, both at home and abroad, will have much to do with shaping world destiny. If our American friends are under any misapprehension that interest denotes envy, however, it should be pointed out that the most characteristic comment on the American election is, "Thank goodness we don't have to go through that!" —Trail Times. Thirty years or so ago there was not a black squirrel in the city. They were fairly plentiful in the hardwoods in the adjoining rural districts. Classed as "game," there was an open season, when hunters were permitted to shoot them, thus keeping their number within bounds. Today it is seldom one sees a black squirrel in the country. Apparently they have come to the city and taken up permanent quarters in the parks where they have given out many of the song birds that formerly nested within the precincts of these breathing places. —Guelph Mercury. Mr. Gammans, Assistant Postmaster-General, stated in the House of Commons that the designs for the special issue of coronation stamps were now being examined. A double-sized stamp of the 2-1-2 d. denomination would certainly be issued, but at the moment no further announcement could be made. He hoped that the new 2-1-2 d. stamp in the permanent series, bearing the head of the Queen, would be on sale by the end of the year, and the new 1-1-2 d. stamp would be issued at or about the same time. —London Times. Japanese girls have come up with a unique anti-war campaign and reports are that it's proving successful. Hard-hit by World War II—there are 325,000 war widows in Tokyo alone—the women are refusing to befriend soldiers and openly pledging never to marry them. Officials say the move appears to be hurting the recruiting of a new Japanese army. This is not much of an idea for our allies, for they are definitely not war-hungry. But we heartily recommend it to the womenfolk in Russia and the satellite countries. It the lasses behind the Iron Curtain could only put the pressure on their Ivans and the Igors, maybe there wouldn't be quite so much muscle-flexing from that quarter of the globe. —Sherbrooke Record. Brantford prides itself on a number of notable "firsts." It was first with the telephone (the automatic as well as Bell's earlier invention), first with the railway sleeping car (it gave Pullman his bright idea), first with the ice cream soda (it was concocted, according to reputable legend, in a Market street store), and was the place of residence of Canada's first woman journalist (Mrs. D'Acres Hart). It was first, in Canada, with fluoridation of public water supplies. Also, we might mention that the first broadcast over a nation-wide hookup (MacKenzie King spoke here in 1930) was from Brantford, that the first motor scooter was made here, and, of course, that H. M. Chapel of the Mohawks is the first Protestant Church built in Upper Canada. — Brantford Expositor. LONDON—(CP)—Two bullocks showed their annoyance at having to change trains, leaping from the platform on to the rails. Police and railway workers struggled three hours to free them from between two cattle cars. 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