

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa, The Thomson Co. Ltd. Editor and Manager, 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, THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 1954

Welcome News

Canadians will welcome the news that Queen Mother Elizabeth hopes to come to Canada for a few days following her autumn visit to the United States as the guest of President and Mrs. Eisenhower. Many changes have taken place since the Queen Mother toured this country from coast to coast with her husband the late King. A great war has come and gone; a beloved monarch has passed away mourned by millions of loyal subjects in a world-wide Commonwealth; the crown has been assumed courageously and with a deep sense of responsibility by a young sovereign who already has won her way into the hearts of her subjects. Profound changes have been brought about in the constitution of the Commonwealth and Empire.

No change, however, has diminished the devotion and respect which people of the Commonwealth accord the Royal Family. The Queen Mother is held in affectionate esteem for her friendly and cheerful manner; by carrying out so well and wisely her important roles as the consort of the late Sovereign and the mother of his successor she has earned herself a place among the most honoured women of British history.

Only Apparent Surpluses

With world population expanding at a rate of 75,000 each day, the problem of finding new food sources is an ever increasing challenge to economic geographers, Dr. R. C. Wallace, CMG, FRSC, warned the 25th annual meeting of the Canadian Geographical Society at the National Museum in Ottawa.

Dr. Wallace does not think that significant new acreage can be brought under cultivation. Canada's north provides very little prospect of agricultural expansion. The Peace River district, once loudly acclaimed, does not have good soil and requires plowing in of organic material such as clover to maintain production.

Australia has little potential crop-producing land not already in use. The Amazon valley territory, while able to produce crops of a subsistence level, has been found in recent surveys to be not too encouraging. Central Africa may provide more possibilities if the native population can be trained to more scientific methods. "But," points out Dr. Wallace, "we have already possessed the agricultural regions of our planet."

All this adds up to the necessity of increasing the productivity of land presently in use. A comparison of the relative production in different parts of the world using different methods illustrates how greatly world production can be increased by this means. It requires the education of farmers and others in the most efficient techniques of agriculture and it also means that the farmer must be enabled to make use of the most effective equipment.

These ends can only be achieved if the income of the farmer is permitted to rise to the point where he can afford to use modern equipment and provide the higher education necessary to make his children efficient farmers by modern standards.

Melville Island

The National Geographic Society is sending an expedition to little-known Melville Island off northern Australia to report on the art, mythology and tribal characteristics of its people. Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, the Society's president, announced this week. Leader of the group will be Charles P. Mountford, an Australian ethnologist who led a joint National Geographic Society-Smithsonian Institution study of nearby Arnhem Land on the Australian mainland in 1948.

There are gaps in scientific knowledge of the Melville Island aborigines. Their art and beliefs differ from those of the mainland natives and seem to be centered about a colorful burial ceremony, the Pukamani. The Pukamani requires three or four months of dancing and rituals. Much of the time is used in making and decorating carved burial poles, ornaments and bark utensils. The expedition will photograph and record the rites especially from the standpoint of art, symbolism and music. It will also closely observe the natives' food, shelter, tools and water transportation.

Melville Island was discovered in 1644 by Abel Jansz Tasman, the Dutch navigator. In the early nineteenth century the British founded Fort Dundas there but it was soon abandoned.

The island, 65 miles long, 45 miles wide, is the second largest close to the Austral-

ian coast. Behind its fine stretches of beach grow a profusion of trees—stringybark, woolly-butte, plum and ironwood. Bloodwood, white gum and paperbark thrive in freshwater swamps. Mangrove trees dot its shores. The bearded natives wield spears, woomeras, waddies and a short stick thrown so as to rebound from the ground onto its target. While singing and dancing the aborigines paint their faces in lurid shades of red and white.

Probably the most noted inhabitant of Melville Island was Robert Joel (Joe) Cooper, the sturdy six-footer who arrived from South Australia in 1881. His bravery and forthright personality established a place for him in the hearts of the natives who considered him king of the island.

It is expected the National Geographic Society's expedition will reach the field in early March and will remain several months. Arrangements for the trip have been in progress for more than a year.

Tax Watchdogs

A joint brief to Finance Minister Abbott and Revenue Minister McCann has been presented by a committee representing the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. In all, 33 changes in Federal tax statutes are recommended by the two professional bodies in the light of their experience in dealing with taxation problems.

These presentations, which have become regular practice, are most valuable in reducing the awkwardness and unfairness of tax legislation which must deal with a multitude of individual cases and can never, in the nature of things, be perfect. Policy is properly the field of politics but detail and administration can best be carried out and criticized by experts.

Some of the particular points raised in the present brief are that the Income Tax Act differs from the best accounting practice in such matters as methods of calculating depreciation and the immediate profit on sales on credit. It is also urged that the present limit of five per cent and other restrictions on charitable donation by limited companies should be removed.

Of more general concern is the proposal that all taxpayers should be permitted to make tax free contributions towards the provision of retirement pensions, such pensions to be taxed as income when actually received. At the present time it makes all the difference in the world whether the contribution is to an "approved" pension scheme or some more individual provision. Relaxation in this matter would certainly make for a fairer incidence of tax.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated this year on October 11, states a proclamation in the Canada Gazette.

The London Times reports that Canadian forces in Europe have reached a high standard of operational efficiency. Even the troops who must live under it are inevitably proud of the results of proper discipline applied to sound soldier material.

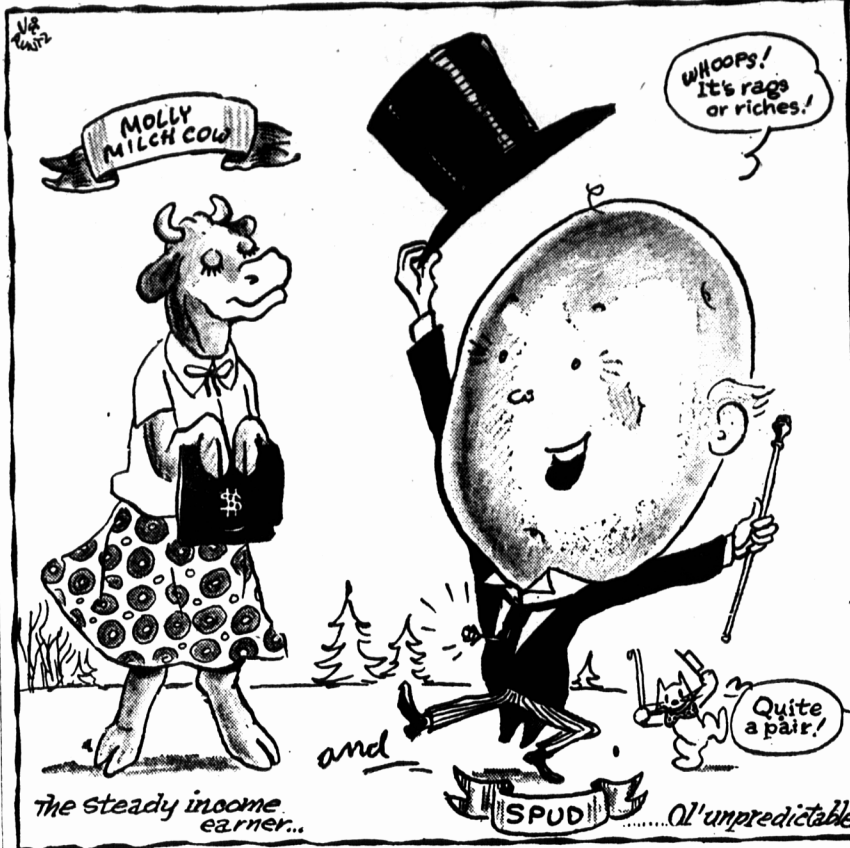
That all rationing, including that of coal, butter, margarine, meat and bacon, will at last be ended in Britain by midsummer is most welcome news. Austerity continued for nine years after the end of fighting is some indication of the unlimited way in which the resources of Britain were thrown into the great struggle.

A reader takes issue with the findings of the Massachusetts State Fisheries Division that lobsters liberated in one area show no sign of returning to their native waters. Only short lobsters from Maine and Nova Scotia apparently figured in the experiment and our correspondent points out that it provides no evidence that P. E. I. lobsters would not return to P. E. I. waters—if given the chance.

"Form threes!" as an order to the guard of honour at the opening of the New Brunswick Legislature took the Gleaner reporter off guard. He recovered sufficiently, however, to explain that it is done thus: From three ranks, the odd numbers of the centre rank take a pace left and forward and even numbers a pace left and to the rear, to form "two deep". "Form threes" is carried out by reversing the procedure.

Thomas Moore, Irish poet, satirist and biographer, died this date 1852. He is regarded as the national poet of Ireland. He studied at Dublin University and then went to London to study law in the Middle Temple. In 1803 he was given the appointment of Admiralty registrar at Bermuda, the work being done by a deputy. The deputy defaulted and most of Moore's literary earnings went to repay an obligation of £6000. Byron had entrusted him with his "Memoirs" but when Byron died, Moore destroyed the text and instead wrote a biography which is rated as one of his best works.

Where The Money Comes From



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.

MR. CHANDLER REPLIES

Sir,—In a letter in yesterday's Guardian, Mr. W. J. Enright refers to me as "the spokesman for educational officialdom in P. E. I." I beg to be excused from any such presumption. My review of Miss Neatby's book "So Little for the Mind" was written at the request of the Secretary of the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation, and my comments on the book represent my personal views. Neither the Teachers' Federation nor the Department of Education have officially associated themselves with my opinions before or since the review was published.

The labels "traditionalist" and "progressivist" in education are like most labels considerably misleading, and I would not like to be tagged with either one. The main purpose of my review was to suggest that fortunately life is seldom that simple. Historians assert that one of our chief virtues in the British Commonwealth has been the ability to take a comprehensive view, to compromise and to find a workable solution to political and other disputes. I felt that Miss Neatby's book, to put it mildly, sadly lacked this approach to the educational debate.

I am, sir, etc. H. B. CHANDLER Charlottetown, February 24.

Old Charlottetown

And P. E. I.

From The Examiner, Oct. 9, 1888: The firemen have fitted up rooms in the upper flat of the new City building in accordance with plans to be seen at the office of Phillips and Chappell.

At the Charlottetown Woolen Company's store you can get custom-made pants from all wool tweed, our own make, for \$2.00, \$2.25 and \$2.50 per pair. Better value cannot be had in any market in Canada.

The Last Royal Gazette contains an advertisement signed by John Lavers, Collector, Georgetown, announcing the sale, in April next, of Town Lot No. 4, in that place, for non-payment of assessment. The assessment is 35 cents; expenses \$3.40—in all \$3.75.

The Methodist Church at Wellington was opened for divine service on Sunday last. The services were largely attended. Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, A.M., occupied the pulpit in the morning and preached an earnest, eloquent sermon. At the afternoon service Hon. W. G. Strong preached a very practical discourse which was much appreciated by his hearers and in the evening Rev. T. Corbett, of the Presbyterian congregation of Tyne Valley, delivered a sermon of great power. After the morning service the dedication took place. The church is well finished and furnished throughout.

One of nature's most spectacular displays—the gorgeous night show of the polar aurora or "northern lights"—is helping science to explore the world of the upper air. An unexplained phenomenon until modern times, the aurora has enabled man to measure how far the atmosphere extends above the surface of the earth. Analysis of its light has revealed the composition of gases in the ionosphere, the electrified region between 50 and 250 miles above the earth.—Washington.

The question of adequate salaries for teachers seems to be a world-wide problem. It has resulted in dissatisfaction, not only in this country, but also in many other Western lands. That it is also experienced in India should therefore be no cause for surprise. It is unfortunate that it assumed the riotous aspect that it did, but just as their cause may have been, the destruction which the teachers caused is bound to lower them in the estimation of the very people who look to them for leadership.—Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Tuberculosis, which plagues poor and under-developed countries, is particularly hard on India. Next to malaria, tuberculosis is responsible for the largest loss of life in that country. The "white plague" takes a high toll of life in all of Asia. Of an estimated 5,000,000 TB deaths annually in the world 3,500,000 are believed to occur in Asia. India loses about 800,000 lives owing to tuberculosis, and there are an estimated 2,500,000 active cases. The social factors are of primary importance. The

Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby you have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit; for why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God; wherefore turn yourselves and live ye.

The Age Old Story

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Notes By The Way

Noted scientist says the day is coming when the world will be toothless. Then we'll have to pass laws with upper and lower dentures in them.—Hamilton Spectator.

The H-bomb tested at Eniwetok, in 1952 is now reported to have torn a hole a mile wide and 175 feet deep in the floor of the Pacific Ocean. Which puts even the "neighbourly" spaniel in the shade.—Hamilton Spectator.

An efficiency expert says housewives do not plan their day carefully. This should include planning which salesman should call on the telephone, just what the baby will spill, and the exact extent of the injuries the boy is to receive from the bully next door.—Edmonton Journal.

During a convention of the French Geographical Society an expert on South Asian jungles told the story that Malays consider apes to be a kind of especially clever human beings. According to the natives "apes are perfectly capable of talking, but won't do it in the presence of people, for fear of being recognized as people—and having to pay taxes."—Indianapolis Star.

The skin of a blind man enables him to "see." This startling statement was made by Doctor Ivo Kojler, of the University of Innsbruck, Austria, as a result of experiments he carried out with an amplifying microphone. According to Dr. Kojler, acoustic waves below the level of audibility are transformed by the ear into an irritation of the skin on the forehead. With his skin thus irritated, the blind man is able to "see" objects as fine and light as a fishing net.—Edmonton Journal.

Retirement may be a matter of months or years away but it is important that preparations be made to ease this sudden change in the general way of life. Planned hobbies will help to make the years to come much more interesting than just killing time.—Niagara Falls Review.

Farmers are the most temperate of all Ontario people in the use of alcohol, according to the Alcoholism Research Foundation of Ontario. The ratio of abstainers in rural areas is 33 per cent, compared to 33 per cent in communities under 10,000 population; 28 per cent in places of from 10,000 to 100,000 people, and 21 per cent in cities of more than 100,000. There are several reasons, all of them good, why farmers don't indulge in alcohol so much as urban people. Most farmers are frugal and thrifty, and money spent in alcohol can seem a waste. There also is a social aspect. In a large city a man may go on a bender without many of his friends knowing about it. That isn't possible in the country.—Windsor Daily Star.

Look around you for a minute. Who are the persons who stand out—be heroes—in the hero-courts? They are the ones who have developed personalities of their own, the ones who go their own way, stand on their own feet and are not concerned with copying others. Be yourself. Perhaps the next thing you know somebody will be copying you.—From an editorial for young people, Hamilton Spectator.

One of nature's most spectacular displays—the gorgeous night show of the polar aurora or "northern lights"—is helping science to explore the world of the upper air. An unexplained phenomenon until modern times, the aurora has enabled man to measure how far the atmosphere extends above the surface of the earth. Analysis of its light has revealed the composition of gases in the ionosphere, the electrified region between 50 and 250 miles above the earth.—Washington.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer UTILITARIANISM It is strange how some philosophies will flourish for a while, then be almost forgotten for many years, and, later, emerge from obscurity for another brief period of popularity. There have been many of these "off-again, on-again" philosophies, or intellectual theories, or mental fashions, whichever description is the most suitable. One of them goes by the name of Utilitarianism; it had quite a vogue in certain quarters a hundred years or so ago; it was pretty well out of fashion by the turn of this century; it is now coming back into a measure of favour in some American circles and, no doubt, elsewhere.

Thousands of reams of paper have been used up by the advocates of this little philosophy with the big name; stripped of much top-heavy and cumbersome verbiage, its central theme is that happiness is the one and only ultimate aim of life.

Like every philosophy which has earned or been given a place in history, this one goes back a long way. There are traces of the principle, though not of the name, in the writings of Aristotle and Socrates. In the 17th and early 18th centuries, when there was a more or less favourable climate for almost any theory which had to do with ethics, received considerable support in high academic places. Indeed, a few of the more prominent theologians of the period were not averse to it.

It was not, however, until the middle of the 19th century that Utilitarianism became a fashionable and respectable theory; this development was due mainly to John Stuart Mill, surely one of the most amazing men in the history of political and social controversy. Whatever his value as a philosopher—there are many opinions about that—he certainly was an intellectual genius. One evidence of that is the fact that by the time he was eight years old he had learned to read Greek fluently; in fact he had already read many of the Greek authors. (Alas, there was no Hollywood in those days to pay him a million dollars a week!)

By the time he was 17 he had gained recognition as a thinker of distinction and already was engaged in the writing of philosophical papers.

Essentially, Mill was a political economist and one far ahead of his time; his philosophy, in the main, consisted of what Jeremy Bentham only a few years before had called "Utilitarianism"; it was intended, as he saw it, to purify and strengthen the political

customs of his day. The happiness which Bentham and Mill, especially the latter, had in mind as the supreme good of life was not that of the individual so much as that of the race. "The greatest happiness of the greatest number" was their favourite slogan.

It might even be necessary for the individual to renounce his personal happiness in order to concentrate on the good of the race. It was not a philosophical abstraction, either; the desire for good moral action, or it would amount to anything. In Mill's own words: "Actions are right in proportion as they tend to promote happiness; wrong as they tend to promote the reverse of happiness." The desire and the action complemented each other.

This, in turn, implied very strict moral education. The individual should be so guided and trained that he would always look in the proper moral direction. Pleasure, according to Mill, was the same thing as happiness only when the senses had been placed under complete control of the intellect, and physical things under the dominance of spiritual forces.

Utilitarianism, as taught by Mill and other philosophers of equal sincerity of purpose, doubtless had a place among the values which make for the abundant life. The pursuit of happiness, for the individual as for the race, is a legitimate aim; but it is difficult to believe that it is the only aim. The moral education that went with it, or at least which Mill intended should go with it, was in itself a fine thing. The most serious flaw in it was the obvious lack of attention to the solutes of any kind, right or wrong.

To suggest that no action is valid which does not promote happiness is to suggest something that does not appear true to life. Everybody knows that some actions are right and some are wrong, per se, without any reference to happiness or anything else. At all events, a philosophy which perhaps was perfectly safe in the hands of Mill or any other mystic of his moral and psychological temperament would be extremely dangerous as a popular fashion. There are quite enough incentives to the pursuit of pleasure (a word often used, though erroneously, to represent happiness) these days, without a material concept of Utilitarianism to give them added strength and to be assumed that it is the material concept, not the mystical one, that is now being advanced.

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