

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1951

Rumblings Behind The Curtain

Remember how, at the theatre, muffled rumblings come from behind the curtain when the scenes are being shifted between the acts?

Consider, for example, the strange case of Dr. Clementis, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia.

From the Kremlin's point of view Czechoslovakia has never been a satisfactory satellite.

It may be some time yet before the curtain goes up on Czechoslovakia.

Economy Note From Ottawa

Output of pamphlets and so-called "informational data" has been the target of Opposition members in the House of Commons.

Now Canada's Health and Welfare is a smart-looking little publication.

Result, of course, is that the departmental publication has been going to thousands of people who have little more than a passing interest.

"Clean Up" For Britain's Festival.

We are hearing a good deal of the attempted "clean up" by the Morality Police of social conditions in Montreal.

It was the first outward sign of an all-out police drive to cleanse the metropolis of its swarms of harlots before thousands of overseas visitors arrive for the Festival of Britain.

justice. Police told the court there were "other matters" which still needed investigation and asked for an adjournment.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There probably will be a new Legislature this time next year.

The members for 5th Prince and 4th King's are tired of paved highway construction in the abstract and anxious to get down to something concrete.

The Nova Scotia Light & Power Co., has ordered for installation at Halifax, a 20,000 k.w. 3,600 r.p.m. turbo-generator set complete with condenser and feed water heaters from the Metropolitan Vickers Co. in Britain.

The new Provincial Rent Control Act gives cities, towns and municipalities power to introduce regulations permitting landlords and tenants to arrange between themselves the rent that should be paid.

"If the Dominion Government paid us \$2,000,000 today," Premier Jones told the Legislature, "they would not have made up for the damage they have done us in the past year."

Milk grade and markets go hand in hand. The great improvement noted in the Health and Welfare report is due to the opening up of markets, especially by air.

A detailed census of Canada's commercial fisheries will be undertaken in June this year. The first stage will be conducted in conjunction with the ten-year population census in June.

The Mayor of Coventry and other distinguished guests witnessed the completion and packing of the 3,000,000th fractional h.p. motor made in the British Thomson Houston's Coventry works.

Dr. Frank MacKinnon's timely address on "Responsibility in Government and Education", published in full in our issue of yesterday, should be read and studied not only by all our school teachers.

Charlotte Bronte, afterwards Nicholls, died this date 1855. She became a nursery governess until 1842 when she went to Brussels with her sister Emily where they obtained a competent knowledge of French.

Commissioner J. S. DesRoches, K. C., in his report on the Fishermen's Loan Scandal, says there were no regulations made under the Act governing the fishermen's loans during the period under review by him.

It was the first outward sign of an all-out police drive to cleanse the metropolis of its swarms of harlots before thousands of overseas visitors arrive for the Festival of Britain.

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.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

Sir, I was very pleased to read the two letters in The Guardian, March 27, one by Mr. G. E. Wood of Charlottetown the other by Mr. Fred Tuplin of Kensington.

Last Sunday while returning home from church I was walking through the Experimental Farm, when I saw five or six young boys each one carrying a B.B. gun.

Once I asked a Mounted Police officer if there was any law in force to stop boys under age from carrying or using B.B. guns.

I would say that is a very poor law for a country such as we now live in. As the saying goes "Why lock the door after the horse is stolen."

As for Mr. Tuplin, I feel sure in saying 75 percent of the damage done to property has been done by some youths or others who at times have practiced target shooting with a B.B. gun.

I am Sir, etc. HORACE D. MACLEWEN, Mt. Edward Rd., Charlottetown.

Probing Secrets

(London Calling.) Physicists at Bristol University are now sending huge balloons to heights of many miles in order to gather information about cosmic rays—the mysterious rain of particles that stream down on the earth from outer space.

These balloons look rather like the ones in which people used to make ascents many years ago, except that they carry no baskets for passengers.

Even a 100-foot balloon takes a month to make, and has two miles of seams, that have to be sealed off with a hot iron.

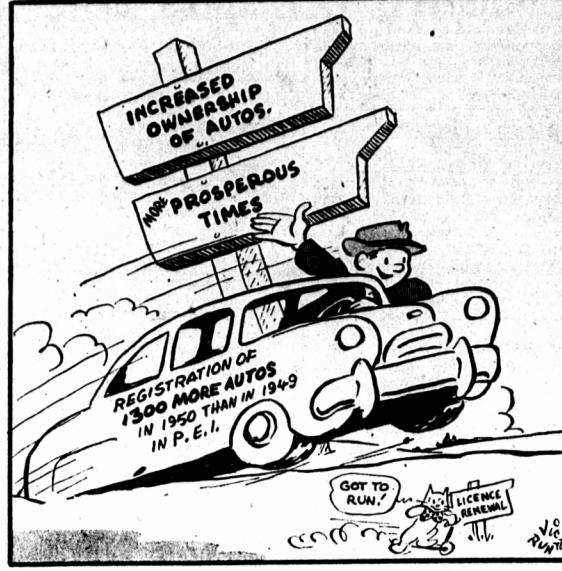
The bigger the balloon the higher it goes. The 200-foot monster should reach a height of 22-miles—nearly twice as high as an airplane has ever flown.

But most of the rays are lost high in the air by colliding with atoms that make up the atmosphere. So, the farther up a balloon can go the more cosmic radiation there is for its instruments.

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Two Places In The Same Direction



to observe. I say "instruments" but really only one of them has a direct connection with the rays.

There is a little radio transmitter that sends out messages saying how high the balloon is; a gadget that automatically jettisons ballast if it is losing height when it should not; and an ordinary household alarm clock that releases the instruments at a given time and lets them float down by parachute.

Then, most important, there are packages containing photographic plates bundled up in cotton wool. These plates are very like the ones used in cameras, but the sensitive emulsion they are coated with is much thicker.

What happens is that the cosmic particles tear through this emulsion, tracing a tiny furrow in it. And if they strike atoms in the emulsion they are likely to split—and that, too, is recorded.

Well, a balloon is sent up, complete with equipment. It reaches a height of so many miles and may drift a long way with the wind; the last one reached Holland. (Incidentally, these balloons are often taken for flying saucers.)

Every returned plate requires about a year's study. First it is charted by a young girl with a microscope; that takes her about four months.

Where does it all lead? Well, it is part of the study of the greatest of atomic problems—the mysterious force that binds atoms together. And these plates, which have come down from miles in the air, give evidence of new particles, called mesons—which the physicists believe are related to that force.

LONDON, March 28.—(Reuters)—A Foreign Office spokesman said today there had been neither official nor unofficial approaches from Egypt about nationalizing the Suez Canal.

THE KEYSTONE

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Notes By The Way

Leaving Easter where it is, the Spring parade might well be changed to May 1 so we could have a chance to see the new dresses they wore under their furs on Sunday. — Ottawa Citizen.

Visitors find something charming in the quaint names found along the coast of Newfoundland. Many visitors undertake tours merely to see places bearing such names as Heart's Delight, Heart's Content, Come-by-Chance or Bread and Cheese. Songs have been written about them. — St. John's Telegram.

Eventually there will be about 2,000 television stations spread over America. The Federal Communications Commission has tentatively proposed that about 10 per cent of these facilities be set aside for the non-commercial. This is a pitifully small proportion.

The Canadian 10-cent stamp is one of the weirdest objects known to philately. If ugliness and absurdity add to a stamp's value, this one will be a treasure in all future collections.

Having spent his entire life on the tiny, rocky island of Swona, the Orkneys, Mr. James Rosie died at 82. Since the death of his wife 20 years ago, Mr. Rosie had lived on the island with his son and daughter. He made a frugal living by doing some farming (plowing with oxen) and fishing for lobster.

As decent as she lived and died, Poor Shemus went to buy a spade To dig himself a place beside.

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The Poet's Corner

BOG LOVE

Wee Shemus was a misdropt man Without a shoulder to his back; He had the way to lift a rann, And throttled rabbits in a sack.

And red-haired Mary whom he wed, Brought him but thirty shillings told; She had but one eye in her head, But Shemus counted it for gold.

The two went singing in the hay Or kissing underneath the sloes, And where they chanced to pass The day There was no need to scare the crows;

But now with Mary waked and laid As decent as she lived and died, Poor Shemus went to buy a spade To dig himself a place beside.

—Shane Leslie.

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