

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1951.

New Delivery Service

As intimated in today's news columns, a further improvement in The Guardian delivery service outside of Charlottetown was put into effect yesterday...

In many parts of Eastern King's County, this means that the delivery has been expedited by twenty-four hours. This morning, for example, the couriers will be leaving today's Guardian in those sections...

The people of West Prince have been very warm in their expressions of appreciation of the service now being received, and it is hoped that the further improvement by truck delivery for Queen's, King's and Eastern Prince Counties will prove equally satisfactory.

Rubber For Stalin's Charlots?

The United Kingdom is still exporting vast quantities of raw rubber to the Soviet Union. Authority for this statement is none other than Sir Hartley Shawcross, President of the Board of Trade.

Modern armies, as even a schoolgirl knows, roll their chariots of war on rubber tires. It seems a tragic error of judgment, surely, for the United Kingdom to be providing Russia with the rubber that makes it possible for Soviet armies to move swiftly across the face of Europe and Asia...

The explanation offered by the President of the Board of Trade for the decision to continue this dubious traffic in rubber with the Soviet Union is not convincing. The rubber that goes to Russia, says Sir Hartley Shawcross, is traded for coarse grain and lumber, both urgently needed in Britain.

In Canada, where grain is produced in almost limitless quantities, and where lumber is one of the most important industries, and where both depend in large measure on the export market, it seems the height of folly for the British socialist government to persist in trading with the Soviet Union.

Food Problem Discussed

Little hope for lower food prices in the immediate future is held out by Canadian farm economists, to judge from the reports of their recent gathering at the Ontario Agricultural College.

"There is, fortunately, a brighter side to the picture," says the Ottawa Journal. "There may be fewer farms and fewer farmers but the smaller number today can produce more. Canadian agriculture today, stated Dr. Drummond, could face the possibility of war with much better equipped farms and with better production methods, although with a much smaller reserve of manpower than was the case in 1939."

"For the uninitiated who may think this a good time to buy that little piece of land and get into the business of food pro-

duction the economists at Guelph had a word of warning. They pointed out that to become a farmer today required 150 per cent more capital than it did in 1940, 50 per cent more than in 1946."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The 13 prize Bingo for the Hockey League was apparently unlucky.

The farmer who lives "off the pavement" wants no rain to mar haymaking operations but would certainly be glad to see a daily shower on the road to lay the dust.

Welcome to the 85 members of La Survivance Francaise who arrive tonight, and also to the Hon. Hughes Lapointe, Minister of Veterans' Affairs whose brief holiday here happily coincides with that of the Quebec and Montreal group.

A city schoolmaster holidaying on a farm turned to the farmer and said, "You are excavating a subterranean channel, it seems." "No, sir," replied the farmer, "I am only digging a ditch."

Summerside's programme which aims at eliminating all overhead wiring on the main street will greatly improve the appearance of the town, but even more important, it will reduce the hazards of fire fighting in the area.

Britain's latest anti-inflationary step, restriction of dividends, may well reduce the excess money in circulation but old fashioned economists would expect such a move to also have the effect of preventing increases in the amount of goods produced.

Sulphur is one of the most critical raw materials today and no less than four ships carrying that product to Britain have caught fire in the last three months. The recent loss of such a cargo off the Cape Breton coast should certainly be investigated thoroughly.

Compulsory church rates, formerly levied in each parish in England and Ireland for the support of the parish church, were abolished this date 1868. They were levied by the churchwardens together with the parishioners and collectible by the ecclesiastical courts or two justices of the peace unless exceeding £10 or involving a question of law.

It is just as bad budgeting for a government to produce an unplanned surplus as an unexpected deficit, although public reaction is not usually so unfavorable. At the present time, however, the fact that Canada has piled up a \$336,445,157 surplus in the first three months is going to make it extremely embarrassing for the Government when it comes to imposing the additional taxation necessary to finance the expanded pension programme.

There is a drive on in the United States to ban all imports of dairy products until 1953, if these would impair domestic production. The restrictive measure appears to be aimed at Canadian producers. Forgotten by the people in Washington sponsoring this legislation, says the Ottawa Journal, is the fact that several hundred million pounds of vegetable oils of U. S. origin are being allowed into Canada at very low tariff rates and competing directly with the Canadian dairy industry.

Women must learn to go slow if they wish to live to a green old age. The reason some women are nervous is that "They spend \$10 worth of energy on a 10 cent task," Dr. Walter C. Alvarez declares. "They shop too long to save a quarter," said the consultant from Mayo Clinic. "Then they come home so terribly tired that they shriek at their children and fuss at a perfectly good husband." He told the General Federation of Women's Clubs that women are nervous because they "worry stupidly over things that are preposterous or things that never happen."

Experiments in which children and students aged from four to 30 were tested on a treadmill have established that women are not equal to men in physical work, but that before adolescence girls are equal to boys. It was found that in children up to 12 there was little, if any, difference between the two sexes, but after puberty the capacity to take oxygen and for physical work showed a steep decline in the case of women. The adult woman's capacity was 30 per cent lower than that of a man or 20 per cent lower in relation to body weight. The women with the highest capacity just reached the level of the men with the lowest. It seems that the only period of true physical equality is in childhood.

The Battle Continues



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

IN LEADING STRINGS

It was not until 1851 that this Island achieved Responsible Government. The manner in which we were handicapped prior to that date is illustrated in the following excerpt from the Colonial Herald of November 14, 1840: "We regret to state that the Bill passed last Session for the erection of a building for a Lunatic Asylum and other objects of charity, has been suspended by the Queen in Council, on the ground that the appointment of the trustees by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly would be conferring executive powers on the legislative bodies. The Bill for the appointment of coroners in each of the Counties is rejected, because the appointment is in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, whereas it is maintained that the appointment ought to have been in the hands of the Governor alone; and also, that no retiring allowance is provided for the officer at present in charge of that office. The Apprenticeship Act has also been disallowed, but upon what grounds we really confess ourselves unable to make out."

New Documents About Columbus

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Two documents soon to be sold in the United States have been in the hands of an Oxford firm of booksellers. They are here described by Valentine Selsey.

"The first document, dated May 20, 1493," he writes, "instructs the officials of the royal storehouses of Seville and Cadiz to hand over enough wheat for the manufacture of biscuits to the fleet of Christopher Columbus. The second, dated June 1, 1493, calls on these same officials to borrow enough wheat for the manufacture of biscuits because the royal storehouses are empty—biscuits, of course, because bread could not be baked on board ship in those days. Spanish sailors of the period expected to receive daily one pound of biscuits, two litres of wine, and two-thirds of a pound of meat or fish. It had been Columbus' previous experience that Europeans did not take kindly to local food, and so plans had to be made to carry all the food needed for a journey by sea, and even for time spent in land. When Columbus made his first Atlantic crossing in 1492 he only had his own Santa Maria and two other small ships carrying crews of 120 men in all. This second trip was a much more ambitious undertaking made with the full support and approval of the King of Spain; seventeen ships were carrying 1,500 men, and to fund the biscuits for these men 6,000 bushels of wheat had to be found, not an easy task after a year of bad harvests throughout Spain."

King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella were in a hurry, the Portuguese were threatening to send rival expeditions to the New World and it was only intervention by the Pope which settled the matter. He decreed that all the lands discovered west of the Canary Islands would go to Spain, and that everything to the east would belong to Portugal. This satisfied everybody, and so, having received all the supplies he needed, Columbus sailed westwards for the second time in two years, and the course he took was more to the south than in the previous year. San Salvador had been the first land sighted in 1492; the island of Dominica close to the mainland of South America was the spot where he went ashore on his second journey. The biscuits, we are told in a report he sent that year to the King of Spain, were an unqualified success.

As for these two documents, they are in remarkably good condition. The ink is now dark brown instead of black; of the King's seal, only about half remains. The

The Poet's Corner

WHEN WE ARE GONE

The spring will come again; and bloom and pass, When we are gone, and all the loves we knew, Are blown like jonquil petals on the grass, Irreparable as broken beads of dew; The cherry trees will stand in bouffant row Quite unaware that we, forgotten, lie Beyond the reach of springtime, or of snow, Beyond the arch of pale, delphinium sky. Yet, what of those who come, flesh of our flesh, To stand beneath the trellis where we stand? Will they not know this moment's silver mesh, The swift caress of lip and throat, And will they not, finally, prove to be Our proud, triumphant immortality? —Christie Lund Coles, in The New York Times.

British Museum authorities have accepted the documents as authentic. They are quite unknown to the historian—a Columbus biography published fifty years ago makes no mention of them. Nearly all the historical documents of the period about Columbus and the discovery of the New World are in the Spanish State archives.

The Age-Old Story

Wherefore the Lord said, Forsomuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

Gaelic In Scotland

(St. Thomas Times-Journal)

Preliminary report on the recent census in Scotland, shows that the population is 5,995,000, which is a gain of 253,000 since the last census 20 years ago, and the largest on record. The first census was in 1801, when the population was 1,608,420. Glasgow, is of course, easily the largest city, with 1,089,555; Edinburgh next with 468,770; Aberdeen jumps over Dundee for the first time to take third place with 182,714, Dundee having 117,333. There are 226,471 more females than males in the country. Scotland at one time had a

so these two documents must have lain forgotten in the private collection of a Spanish family for more than 450 years. Perfect, too, are the signature; not "Ferdinand" and "Isabella," but Yo El Rey, I the King, and Yo La Reyna, I the Queen."

FARMERS

Quite frequently you read of great damage done to property by WINDSTORM. It might happen here! If your home is insured with us you can add "Supplemental Covers" to your fire policy on dwelling and contents.

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INTERRUPTION NOTICE

There will be an interruption in electric power from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. on Wednesday, Aug. 1st, on the Elm Avenue circuit from Worthy's Corner to St. Dunstan's.

This interruption is necessary in order to move a pole.

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Notes By The Way

If Princess Elizabeth were to accept all the invitations that are being extended she would need no three weeks in Canada but three years. —Ottawa Journal.

"A pat on the back, says a psychologist will develop character. If administered often enough. Yes, and young enough and low enough." —Windsor Daily Star.

Upon education our country must pin its hopes of true progress, which involves scientific and the direction of reason; of true technological advance, but under prosperity, which includes external goods, but does not overlook those

language of its own—Gaelic. It can be traced back for more than 1,600 years. But the census shows that the number of Scots who know only Gaelic today and cannot speak English at all, is only 2,652 compared with 6,716 in 1931. The number who can speak both languages is 91,631, compared with 129,419 at the last census. The counties with the largest number of Gaelic speakers are Ross and Cromarty, 1,332, and Inverness 1,227. These are the real Highland counties. Gaelic as the national tongue has been vanishing steadily for a great many years, and outside of the counties named the Gaelic language is not spoken, the vast majority of Scots never having heard a word of it. It is only kept alive there and to a small extent by patriotic societies that run classes for the benefit of their members.

There are probably as many natives of Canada who, to a certain degree at any rate, have the Gaelic as there are in Scotland who cannot speak English. When Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald visited Canada he was met at Halifax by Premier Angus Macdonald who as a Canadian Scot, presumed that the British accent was so thick it could be cut with a knife, could also speak Gaelic, particularly as he came from one of the Northern counties. Premier Macdonald greeted him with a Gaelic phrase of welcome. Prime Minister MacDonald looked at him in surprise. He did not know what the Premier of New Scotland was saying.

There's another law "they oughta be!" This one would make it legal for any grown-up to tan the breeches or otherwise of any youngster observed running out across a street or highway without first looking carefully both ways to make sure no traffic is coming. In the majority of these cases the long-suffering motorist, beset as he is with the many other pitfalls connected with driving in the city, has been entirely blameless. The wonder of it is that there have not been more drivers collapsing of heart failure as a result of close shaves involving youngsters who insist on darting out from behind parked cars or other obstructions into traffic lanes. —Sudbury Daily Star.

The Communist propagandizing has left a permanent impression on the English language. It has served to discredit a lot of good words that mean things because of the uses to which the word Communism have put it, and the word Fascism is rapidly losing its excellent usage because of loose application the Communists have made of it. Democracy has suffered badly but its meaning is still clear. The latest words to suffer are "civil liberties." The abuse which the Communists have made of these two words have rendered them invalid as part of the name of any honest organization. The death blow dealt in New York where ball for Communists was posted in the name of a "civil liberties" committee that proved itself to be without honor. The words have been worn thin and useless by misuse. —Boston Post.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for various practitioners including lawyers (A. Walthen Gaudet, Joseph R. MacMillan, Frederic A. Large, J. A. McGuigan, Gaudet & Hazzard), accountants (H. R. Doane & Co.), optometrists (J. S. Taylor, Allison M. Gillis, Byron J. Grant O.D.), and veterinarians (Dr. John E. Sterns).