

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, DEC. 21, 1953

Home For The Holidays

One of the exciting things about the Christmas season is the return of young people from schools and colleges. Their relatives and friends can notice their growth and increasing maturity with a keenness impossible when they are daily part of the family circle.

The feeling of strangeness does not last long, however, and in short order it is life at home that is real and school that seems remote. Examinations past or examinations to come take on an air of concern.

In the meantime there are friendships to renew and a round of activities to take part in. Time seems limitless although it will pass with increasing swiftness until the last few days seem hardly to exist.

It is trite but true that it is good to get away and good to be home again. We are so constituted that new experiences are the very breath of life, but at the same time they cannot be properly appreciated unless we also have a feeling of stability that comes from feeling that it is always possible to come home.

A Plea For The Birds

Whether or not some birds should be classified as farmers' enemies and therefore placed under proscription is a question for which apparently there is no unanimous answer. It is interesting to note, however, that a distinguished French ornithologist has come out with many kind words for the feathered branch of creation.

He has a special word of praise for the crow which nowadays is hardly ever mentioned in respectable company. He calls him "a valuable scavenger and clearer of the land".

Christmas Islands

Despite its romantic appeal, a Christmas sojourn on either of the world's two Christmas Islands is likely to be a hot, dull occasion. White sand and coconut palms are the nearest approaches to snow and evergreens on the Central Pacific atoll and Indian Ocean island named for the Yuletide.

Christmas Island in the Pacific lies just north of the equator, 1,200 miles south of Hawaii. Captain James Cook, who landed there on Christmas Eve, 1777, gave the island its name. One of the Pacific's largest atolls, Christmas is a series of low coral outcrops, covered with a layer of hard sand and scanty soil.

A copra boat connecting Christmas with Fanning Island, 153 miles distant, is the island's only regular communication with the outside world. It is not a port-of-call for any steamship line.

The other Christmas Island is a lonely British sentinel in the Indian Ocean, 900 miles northwest of Australia and 190 miles south of the west tip of Java. Southward, the expanse of ocean is unbroken for 3,500 miles to Antarctica. The island was uninhabited until 1888 when it was annexed by Great Britain.

Peak of a submarine mountain rising from the deep bed of the ocean, Christmas is only 60 square miles in area. Its population is about 1,500. The majority are Chinese and Malays who mine the island's phosphate. It contains one of the world's largest known deposits of high-grade phosphate. More than a million tons are exported annually.

Fish Meal Production

Much fishery development has been associated with the increasing level of fish meal and oil production but in terms of the world food situation it will be very difficult to gauge the extent to which such development should be continued in the long-term, reports a United Nations bulletin. For example it might appear anomalous that the United States' menhaden fishery and the Norwegian herring fishery each supply annually for reduction purposes a quantity exceeding the total annual fish production of India.

Similarly, the production of fish meal for export in countries where the indigenous shortages of animal protein occur reflects an ineffective domestic demand for fish foods and a high world demand for animal feeds. It cannot, however, be taken for granted that the commercial success of these developments will necessarily justify the promotion of similar undertakings in underdeveloped countries where they may serve rather to retard the vigorous onslaught on marketing problems which will be required to translate consumer needs into effective demand.

Of the world's food supplies only about 10% of its animal protein derives from the waters although these occupy 75% or more of its surface. This directs attention upon the question of whether the seas, lakes and rivers could yield much greater quantities of food and whether it would be possible to secure an increase in fish production proportionately much greater than can be expected from land industries.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Festival of St. Thomas. Today, the shortest day, the winter solstice, the beginning of winter.

Galloping inflation has struck Ireland according to a recent report. "Sixpence", the leading two-year-old Irish filly, has been purchased by the Alberta Ranches for £20,000.

Federal proposals for a pension scheme for totally disable persons will be discussed at a meeting of Federal and Provincials on January 25. Like many other plans it is too valuable to turn down but may well prove expensive to adopt.

The late Mrs. D. J. Riley was widely known and took a leading part in many humanitarian organizations as well as in the Women's Liberal Club of which she was a charter member and past president, and the National Federation of Liberal Women of Canada in which she held an honorary life membership.

Mouzaemon Chikamatsu, Japanese playwright, was born in 1653. He wrote nearly all his plays for marionettes because the authorities had forbidden first women and then young boys to appear on the popular stage in order to bring the people back to the sacred theatre.

Last Lap



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.

THE CHRISTMAS SONG

Sir,—Christmas was ushered in with a song, and every Christmas since has been heralded with a song; and the song never ends and it has spread across the world.

This is it, a King is born and He has come among us. We must prepare for Him. We must decorate our homes. Some mistletoe must be hung around. Among the heathen in the long ago that was a sacred plant, and when they became Christians they said, "We want Jesus to have this plant" and they laid it at his feet, and there it has been ever since.

And we must have some holly. To our forefathers that spoke of Jesus. Summer and winter it is always the same. In February when the leaves of all the trees are dead and gone there is the holly, fresh and green. So is Jesus "the same yesterday and forever". We change, the whole world changes, but Jesus never changes. His love never fails.

UNBALANCED BUDGET

BEXLEY, England, (CP)—The council in this Kent town received £243 from the sale of 94 tons of scrap metal gathered in a borough-wide campaign. Cost of conducting the campaign—£328.

ABUSES OF FREEDOM

Sir,—Much of the confusion in the world today is created by fuzzy thinkers prating about freedom with little knowledge of its precise connotation. "Liberty! Liberty!" cried Madame Roland, "how many crimes are committed in thy name!"

In the conventional view, the man who strikes a dramatic pose and unbends himself of the bromide: "I claim the right to say what I like, when I like, and where I like" is acclaimed as a great democrat. In reality, he is talking like an idiot.

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The Poet's Corner

LOVE SONG

As the ant brought to Solomon the King The thigh of a grasshopper as an offering, So I bring to thee, beloved, my soul. I have placed my head and my heart On the sill of the door of thy love; Step gently, child!

service to disseminate abroad information about the U. S. its people, and policies promulgated by the Congress, the President, the Secretary of State and other responsible officials of the Government having to do with matters affecting foreign affairs.

Old Charlottetown

From The Examiner, August 8, 1888. Four electric lamps are to be placed on Queen Square by the Electric Light Company, free of charge, to show off the flower garden during the season. They are to be connected with the shop light circuit, and will be lighted till half-past ten every night.

Mr. Hugh L. MacDonald, M. P. F., has arranged with the Superintendent of the Railway for a special train from Georgetown and Cardigan for the trotting event to take place at Summerside on the 30th inst., by which those who intend visiting Prince County's metropolis will be able to do so and return the same evening.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL



GIVE CHRYCO ACCESSORIES

- ★ 6 & 8 Tube Radio ★ Spot, Back-up and Fog Lights
★ Summaster or Ventshades ★ "Jiffy-Jet" Windshield Washer
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Handsome Gifts for Christmas...

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Notes By The Way

A lot of people who look ahead have been planting bulbs for next spring's flowers. And a lot of people who don't look ahead are tramping on the flower beds.

A flood of light is thrown on some current books by the plea of an inmate of an Indian insane hospital which reads, "Please do not restore me to sanity until I have finished my book."

Some people start the day with two aspirins and some baking soda. Others have a cup of coffee and some wafer thin toast. Few can stomach the type of breakfast indulged in when the century was young, and life a more sedate and leisurely affair.

We are not at all sure that the need for a national health service is as pressing as some people suggest. About 40 per cent of all Canadians are now covered by voluntary schemes of one kind and another: group insurance; Blue Cross and the rest. What is to stop the other 60 per cent following their example?

It is not that Canadians are cultural barbarians as the snobish might infer. There is probably as much, or more "culture" in the shape of orchestras, symphonies, ballet companies, libraries and art galleries in the great cities as there is in most of provincial Britain, if not in London itself.

Jealousy is one of the most inherent of human emotions, and it is one which has ruined many lives. It is not kept under control. It can become an overpowering element in the destruction of happiness.

barrels with a few up to 100 and even 150 barrels, and a good many none at all.

work out that way. While the tiny infant was doing well, the two-year-old took sick. Finally a doctor was called. He diagnosed the case as just one of jealousy; there was nothing else wrong. The little fellow, the first-born, didn't like all the attention the new-born babe of necessity had to get. Jealousy soon is replaced by affection of the older child for the younger one. But it often requires a bit of patience and understanding by the parents.

Cows Don't Care, but... (Minneapolis Tribune) We suspect that few working farmers will start lying luxuriously until 9 or 10 a.m. because a University of Minnesota dairy scientist has announced that it isn't necessary to milk cows at 5 or 6 o'clock to keep production up.

There is stock to feed, there are barns and other buildings to clean and keep in repair, fences to mend, sickles to sharpen, machinery to maintain, hay to cut, corn to the harvest, the West 40 to plow. And he must have time to study the market and know the right time to sell his feeders.

For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. . . . And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

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