

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1951

For Cleaner Campaigning

In its resolution appealing for cleaner election campaigning the Canadian Legion in 1949 asked for the cooperation of all our representatives and political candidates in publicising and enforcing the existing regulations, which brand as illegal the buying and selling of votes and the use of intoxicating liquor for election purposes.

In commenting on this resolution at the time, The Guardian suggested that it was one of vital importance, and the same point was made repeatedly in these columns during the last Provincial campaign.

Mr. MacLean, of course, has no monopoly on appealing in this manner to the conscientious electorate, but if his action is the means of placing the campaign on a higher plane than has too frequently been the case in the past, it will be to the benefit of all parties.

Indeed, it is only by the candidates themselves taking the lead in this matter, openly and unequivocally, that these long-standing abuses under our democratic system can be eradicated.

Hard On Needy Pensioners

One of the headaches which the Federal Government will face this year, predicts the Financial Post, is the inadequacy of the \$40 old age pension now paid to some 300,000 Canadians.

At March 31, there were 302,000 seventy years or over, receiving the \$40 a month benefit. Under the new scheme this number will be more than doubled.

Probably \$100 millions would look after the urgent needs of present means-test pensioners. But with Ottawa committed to raise an extra \$250 millions for the new scheme, the needy ones will have to fight their own inflationary battle as best they can.

Exports To Britain Up

Canada's export trade to Britain, which has been falling off since 1947, is once again on the increase. According to External Affairs Minister Pearson the Canada-United Kingdom continuing committee on trade and economic affairs estimates that for the year beginning July, 1951 the United Kingdom will buy 50 per cent more from this country than in the calendar year 1950.

If the estimate is well founded, and there is every reason to believe the committee knows whereof it speaks, Canadian prosperity should remain at a high level for another year at least and the prospects are good for longer term developments.

We are, of course, closely linked with conditions in the United States but large purchases by Britain will go far to cushion the Canadian economy from possible shocks from that quarter.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Rosary Crusade comes to a head this afternoon with a demonstration at the Exhibition Grounds.

The Northumberland Ferries Ltd. have had a pretty cool reception at Ottawa in their appeal for an additional steamer.

Tomorrow it will be in order to heed the old injunction with regard to summer wear—"Ne'er change a clout till May is oot."

The swimming, boating and drowning season is approaching. The rules of safety and common sense applied to the first to go far towards avoiding the third.

About \$18 million worth of cycles and motorcycles were imported from the U.K. into Canada and U.S. during the first quarter of 1951—an increase of \$2.36 million on the 1950 average.

Lieut.-Governor Prowse believes in His Majesty's representative showing the way in good citizenship, as witness his arrival at the Red Cross blood donor clinic at opening time of its first day here.

Safety first! The Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey, from which the Stone of Destiny was removed last Christmas, has been moved to an enclosure in the Henry VII Chapel as "a security measure."

Retail sales were 19 per cent higher in the first quarter of 1951 than a year ago according to the Bureau of Statistics. Even allowing for higher prices it seems that preparedness is not imposing any notable hardship on the population at home.

Voltaire, French sceptic, dramatist and historian, died this date 1778. He had been exiled to England in 1725 and there became versed in English politics, literature and philosophy. His 12,000 letters to some 700 correspondents afford a wealth of information about the eighteenth century.

It is well that Korean veterans should be guaranteed as good rehabilitation treatment as those of the Second World War. If operations continue at their present pace, however, it might be necessary to consider even higher benefit rates for service in the theatre of operations.

Tourists, whether Americans or fellow Canadians from other Provinces, expect to find things "different" here or they would feel that they might just as well remain at home. Every opportunity should be seized to let them see, hear, do and eat things they are unlikely to meet with elsewhere.

The Incredible Mr. Pouliot, M.P. (L—Temiscouata) has done it again. His "Pouliot Plan" to defend Canada by building an airport in every constituency is mad but its madness is merely the result of following to its logical conclusion the generally accepted parliamentary principle of looking out for the constituencies and letting the country look out for itself.

The latest Liberal party caucus is reported to have discussed the possibility of a new fall session of Parliament. Liberal M.P.'s are now sure that there's too much work left to finish everything by June 30, as hoped. The big question apparently is whether the fall arrangement would be a new session, or a continuation of the one now underway. M.P.'s tend to favor the latter idea, which would net them another \$4,000.

The Guardian has a real target to shoot at these days. Or at least its flying delivery service to the outports has. Paul Sharpe, who daily delivers The Guardian by plane to rural areas, reports that on the small island known as Little Channel along the North Shore the fishermen have constructed a "bull's eye" target for him and daily wait to see the results of his marksmanship. Mr. Sharpe does not say he hits the "bull" every time, but he does maintain that the residents of the lonely island, only inhabited during the fishing season, are getting their Guardians regularly.

There is nothing new under the sun—not even the MacArthur-Truman case which had a precedent in England, when Major-General Sir Frederick Maurice was recalled as director of the general staff in 1918 when he defended General Gough accused by Prime Minister Lloyd George for reverses suffered by his Fifth Army in the German offensive at Ypres, and was removed from his command. Sir Frederick went to his defence and charged the Prime Minister with misstatements. A debate in the House of Commons followed. Supporters of Maurice said his forthright stand on the question had meant the sacrifice of his military career. For 15 years he was president of the British Legion, the organization of war veterans.

To Strengthen Family Ties



THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER Family Rosary Crusade

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.

ELECTION RULES

Sir,—The Guardian of April 17th reports: "Canadian citizenship conferred in a ceremony before His Honor Judge C. St. Clair Trainor yesterday."

"Judge Trainor in his remarks spoke of the greatness of this country, its advancement and how it was only through the efforts of its citizens that great things were possible. He spoke of the rights of a citizen under the law; freedom from arrest; to have access to counsel; protection of property; freedom of worship, including the privilege of bringing up children in the sacredness and love of the family circle. He spoke also of the responsibilities of citizenship; of defending king and country against open or secret enemies; of exercising the franchise; of taking the more active role of party membership so as to have a voice in government, rather than merely vote for candidates and policies selected by others."

Those remarks should be read not only by all electors but in all the schools of P. E. Island. It would have a tendency to put an end to all those false reports about candidates resigning who are seeking election including the present by-election to be held in Queen's County June 25th.

The following is from the Provincial Election Act 1922 and Amendments to and including 1946: Sec. 2(2): "Any person who, before or during any election, for the purpose of affecting the return of any candidate at such election, makes or publishes any false statement of fact in relation to the personal character or conduct of such candidate shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars and costs, and not less than fifty dollars and costs, or in default of payment of such fine and costs, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months and not less than one month, with or without hard labour."

The General Elections Act, Oct. 15, 1946, page 204, Sec. 23, Paragraph (4) states: "Any person who, before or during an election, for the purpose of procuring the election of another candidate, knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at such election is guilty of an offence against this Act punishable on summary conviction as in this Act provided."

Also the By-Election Instructions, Aug. 1st, 1946: "Any person who, before or during an election, for the purpose of procuring the election of another candidate, knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at such election is guilty of an offence against this Act punishable on summary conviction as in this Act provided."

Those concerned please note and inwardly digest. I am, Sir, etc.,

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

The Rapids and Falls of the Nottaway River which flows into the southeast end of James Bay have a potential 1,000,000 horsepower.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION and ANALYSIS

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A Bethune Was Persia's Hero

(The Weekly Scotsman) Persia, which has been figuring so prominently and sensationally in the headlines, has many associations with Scotsmen, particularly in connection with the country's much-discussed oil industry.

But long before they struck oil in that Eastern land, there was a Fife soldier-laird who was regarded by the Persians as their national hero. The centenary of his death in 1851 recalls that he was buried at Tabriz with all the honors the Persians could bestow.

This remarkable man was Sir Henry Lindsey Bethune, Bart., of Killoconquhar, descendant of an East Fife family distinguished in Scottish history. Born in 1787, Bethune began his career as an officer in the army, transferring to the service of the East India Company with a lieutenancy in their Horse Artillery at Madras.

Chosen to go to Persia to instruct the Crown Prince Abbas Mirza in the organization of an artillery force, upon which the Shah had decided, Lieutenant Bethune made a great "hit" with the Persians. His 6 feet 7 inches of soldierly figure, his military prowess, and his agreeable personality, all combined to ensure his popularity.

When fighting broke out between Persia and Russia, Bethune distinguished himself by many feats of bravery and soldierly skill.

On one occasion the Russians made a surprise advance on the Persian camp when the Crown Prince had taken his staff, including Bethune, for a day's hunting. Returning to find their positions threatened, Bethune observed through his glasses a battery of six brass guns ranged in front of the Russian lines and ready to open fire on the Persian camp.

Ordering his horses to be harnessed on the instant, Bethune led a party in a daring dash across the plain and through the enemy's advanced posts. They reached the guns cut down the Russian guard, limbered up the artillery, and galloped back to the Persian lines with the captured guns in the sight of the whole Russian army.

Other equally daring deeds, and his human, kindly treatment of the troops under his command, spread his popularity throughout the Persian army and people.

So highly did the Persians esteem him that they spoke of him as "Rustom"—an honour, indeed, since Rustom was the Hercules of Persian history.

Bethune had been 16 years in the service of the Shah when, on the death of his grandfather, he succeeded to the estate and decided to return to Killoconquhar, where he married and settled down for many years to the life of a Fife laird.

In 1834, however, a crisis blew up in the affairs of Persia. On the death of the Shah, the suc-

The Poet's Corner

YOUTH AND AGE

O Youth! for years so many and sweet, 'Tis known that thou and I were one; I'll think it but a fond conceit— It cannot be that thou art gone! Thy vesper-bell hath not yet tolled— And thou wert aye a masker bold! What strange disguise hast now put on? To make believe that thou art gone? I see these locks in silvery slips, This drooping gait, this alter'd size; But springtide blossoms on thy lips, And tears take sunshine from thine eyes! Life is but thought; so think I will That Youth and I are housemates still.

—Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Cession of his grandson, Mahomed Mirza (his father, the Crown Prince under whom Bethune had served earlier, had died in the interval) was opposed by his uncle, Zullikhan Sultan. Civil war broke out and the young Shah appealed to Britain for aid. Henry Bethune went to London to offer his services, and these were at once accepted by the Foreign Secretary, Lord Palmerston. Bethune was sent to Persia with the rank of Major-General and a commission as British Envoy.

The young Shah welcomed Bethune with delight. The rebel uncle put a price on the Scot's head. Bethune himself went speedily to work, and, in command of the loyal forces—"dragged the army after him," as one chronicler put it—by surprise tactics attacked and defeated the uncle's troops, Zullikhan himself being taken prisoner.

The young Shah, after making his triumphant entry into Teheran, heaped high honors and rewards upon Bethune, including the best Arab steed in the Royal stables. On his return to Britain in September 1835, he was created a baronet by King William IV. For the next 15 years, Sir Henry lived quietly on his Killoconquhar estate. But in 1850, his health having declined, he decided to spend the winter in the warmer clime of Persia, and he died there in the following year.

Every military and public honour known to the Persians attended his funeral at the Armenian cemetery in Tabriz, and the most sincere among those who mourned him were the Shah and his Queen-Mother.

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Notes By The Way

A pessimist is a person who must appear to be unhappy in order to be happy.—(Saskatoon Star-Phoenix)

What is the most entertaining chapter in the Bible (not that the Bible exists for entertainment)? There may be a stronger candidate than the seventh chapter of Proverbs, but if so I shall be surprised.—(Janus in London Spectator.)

Any failure in commercial negotiations with America is to be regretted. It had been hoped that some valuable concessions which would have aided the increase of sterling sales in the chief dollar market might have been obtained. The Americans asked for concessions in return which the British Government were not prepared to make, and they were above all anxious for a further reduction of Imperial preferences. They wished to make arrangements with the members of the Commonwealth, one by one, for reducing the preferences which they give, without consulting the other member countries who benefit from them. This approach was rejected. With some reservations, all the proposed re-

ductions of Imperial preferences have been discussed by the Commonwealth countries concerned and in the end very few concessions have been made. The chief changes have come out of negotiations between Canada and the United States; they are a token of the strong natural attraction of trade over the Canadian frontier—and possibly also of Canadian disappointment over the restricted market afforded for Canadian goods in this country.—(The Times, London.)

Humor and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police appear strange companions, but the latest issue of the RCMP Quarterly, labelled "cartoon supplement", proves they are good companions. This is a collection of cartoons of particular interest to members of the force and some, in fact, are a trifle baffling to the un-uniformed and un-informed outsider. Our choice for top honors is that touching little illustration of a Mountie plodding through a swamp amid clouds of mosquitoes, dragging an unwilling and heavily-loaded horse behind him. The title is "Formerly a Musical Ride Fame," and it is so easy to call to memory the immaculate, swift, confident riders of that marvellous display, dancing daintily to music or dashing about fair grounds with banners flying amid the cheers of thousands. At the risk of beating an old proverb to death we suggest that the Musical Ride is no proof that a policeman's lot is one as happy one. These young men in scarlet and gold are models in adversity as well as in comfortable places where the multitude can admire them.—(Ottawa Journal.)

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

AN IMPORTANT STEP

"On Thursday evening the Government introduced into the House of Commons a series of resolutions providing for the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion. This is a most important step, and should not be taken without very grave deliberation. It has not been preceded by any formal application for union, as was the case with Newfoundland, and it must not now be put forward in a form which will indicate a disposition to do what Mr. Blake insinuated had been done in reference to Newfoundland, namely, the employment of bribery.

In every respect, it is of the greatest consequence that Prince Edward Island should be received into the Dominion. Though not large in point of population, it occupies an important geographical position, and has within itself—in its fisheries and lands—means of advancement and wealth. The Confederation scheme will be incomplete so long as this Island remains in an isolated condition; and now that satisfactory terms have been arranged for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, it is wise to try to effect an arrangement with the Government and people of the one Island which yet remains outside. This must not be done precipitately. Whatever scheme is proposed must be submitted to the deliberation of the people, and that scheme must have in it the essential element of justice.

—Hamilton Spectator, June 12, 1869.

The Age-Old Story

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. . . . Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock; and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. . . . And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Allison M. Gillis, LL.B.

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