

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink." CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1, 1950

Shoulders in The Kremlin

Prior to the Korean war the emotion of fear was being exploited primarily by the Russians. The debacle of satellite aggression in the Far East has turned the tide to the extent that fear as an instrument of propaganda is now making its impact felt in the Kremlin rather than among the peoples of the western democracies.

An outward manifestation of Moscow's attack of the jitters is the conciliatory attitude of Soviet representatives at the General Assembly of the United Nations. Some observers interpret the soft language of Russian delegates to UN as merely a strategy move. So it is, but with reasons. Those reasons are not alone the virtual "atomization" of Korea, but also the mighty rearmament programme of the North American continent, the flow of war supplies to western Germany, and last but not least the "preventive war" speeches in the United States.

The truth is that the comfortable assumptions of the Kremlin that Russian imperialism could continue to grow through the effective use of bullying, satellite aggression, and bombast, have been exploded. It has now become apparent to Russia's leaders that Soviet land strength and Anglo-American atomic "know-how" no longer provide a balance without danger of a world conflagration. The scales, so it seems to the Russians, are now weighted in favor of the West.

The consequence of this realization in steps to convert the Russian economy to a wartime footing are already becoming apparent. A conundrum for Comrade Stalin is how far the Russian people may be relied upon to accept even more stringent measures of economic mobilization without danger of resistance that might result in the overthrow of the Communist regime. The fact that the Russian people are now in for a further round of hardship, privation and terror from the secret police, just when they had been told that the socialist millennium was around the corner, may make the Kremlin's task on the home front even more difficult than it is at present.

Limits To Sovereignty

As a relatively young nation which has enjoyed responsible government for a scant hundred years, has enjoyed practical autonomy only since Confederation and is only now moving to make that autonomy formal, Canada is peculiarly jealous of any limits to complete sovereignty.

We may, therefore, take pardonable pride in our expressed willingness to set limits to that sovereignty in the interest of strengthening the hand of the United Nations in order to preserve peace. The formation of a United Nations force inevitably means such limitation. Once established, such a force, police force if you will, will be able to coerce member nations. They will be less than sovereign states, although by banding together their remaining rights will be the more secure.

The U. N. is the true successor to the British Empire with its bounds extended to the ends of the earth and without the accepted leadership of a Mother Country. It is a case of proceeding from the security of the family group to that of the labor union or political party.

Future Of The Gael

The Sydney Post-Record sees something stirring in the news that has crossed the Atlantic Ocean, of the awarding of the laurel crown to one, George Matheson, driver of a tramway in Glasgow, for his ode on the future of the Gaelic language. It scarcely need be said that the poet wrote his ode in Gaelic. He was crowned with the laurel wreath at the forty-seventh Gaelic gathering in Dunoon, this ceremony making him Scotland's Gaelic Bard.

An ode, as the Greeks well knew and the Gaelic Scots know no less, is a type of lyric poem distinguished by nobility of feeling and solemnity of style. It stirs the imagination to reflect upon George Matheson driving his tram along the streets of old Glasgow, his mind animated by noble feelings expressed in Gaelic. Wouldn't the passengers have been surprised if they had known what was going on in the head of the man up front ringing the tramcar bell as he took them home through the evening mist to supper? It goes to show there is no telling what is transpiring in the minds of everyday looking people as they do the most ordinary jobs.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All Saints Day. It's the blood that counts—if one is not a blood donor he is unfashionable. Cheese is equalling our potatoes and cattle as exports in popular demand. Open season on Brant, that on Ring Necked Pheasant ended yesterday.

The electric storm of Monday did not serve to change the weather to any extent. Up till yesterday we were still in the enjoyment of fine sunny days. Bulgaria's threatened expulsion of 250,000 Turks must revive memories of when it was Turks who were the cause of such cruelties.

More money could be saved by drastic pruning of unnecessary Government staffs at Ottawa, than could conceivably be saved by any practical reduction of the present public works programme.

The improved dollar position will result in West Indian currency restrictions being partly raised at the end of the year, possibly opening up a new, or rather old market for potatoes.

The bi-partizan foreign policy of the United States seems a bit shaky but whether Republicans and Democrats still agree on it or not they at least agree on using it to woo the electorate.

On one of its housing projects the London County Council is building a 140-ft. cylindrical water tower which is not an eyesore. The tower forms part of the project's central heating scheme and is encased in attractive green glass with aluminum frames treated to retain their brightness.

New Brunswick's Provincial Forest Service failed to back up Brig. Rockingham's explanation that some of the leave-breaking Special Service Force had been commanded to fight forest fires. It is rather a pity. The explanation given was surely nothing less than inspired.

In old-time Canada—Ontario and Quebec—they are discovering our importance due to our competitive trade with Newfoundland and other causes—hence, no doubt, the proposed establishment of a branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada in our midst. It's money makes the mare go, and aggressive and progressive industry that brings a City and Province into prominence.

Mr. A. H. Bourne of Glasgow, who claims to be the only Canadian selling bagpipes in Scotland, sailed from Montreal convinced that thousands will be playing the pipes within the next six months. Although he was born in Hamilton, Ont., and served with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for some years, Mr. Bourne is convinced that no North American musical instrument can replace the pipes. "What instrument will sway people the way the bagpipes will," he said. "There is no instrument made that will rally a group of men like the pipes. You can't do that with a saxophone, a violin, or a set of drums."

Benvenuto Cellini, Italian artist, metal worker, sculptor, and flautist, born this date 1500. Nothing but his famous and inimitable autobiography can do justice to his many sidedness; apprentice to a goldsmith; then took up flute playing, and became one of the Pope's court musicians; he enjoyed considerable patronage as a metal-worker under Clement VII, but his penchant for brawling led to his constant change of domicile, and he lived at Paris, Siena, Pisa, Rome and Florence, changing his profession as often as his place of residence. His greatest work as a sculptor is the bronze group "Perseus holding the Head of Medusa" in the Loggia dei Langi, Florence.

The acoustics of the House of Commons at Ottawa, is notorious. A report on the loudspeaking system used in the British House of Commons is being brought back from London by Mr. W. Ross Macdonald, Speaker of the Canadian House, which may spur action for a similar system in the Dominion chamber. A loudspeaking system in the Canadian Commons has long been talked of. Previous Speakers have investigated various systems used elsewhere but no definite action has ever been taken. Mr. Macdonald says he would take home a complete report on Britain's loudspeaking system, which features centrally-hung microphones. Mr. Macdonald says he was favorably impressed. On receipt of his report it will be up to the Federal Public Works Department to make a decision whether the system should be installed in the Canadian Commons.

Cartoon titled 'Americans (per capita) consume double the amount of cheese that Canadians do, according to a news item.' Includes panels with dialogue about cheese consumption and a 'SALE' sign.

Old Charlottetown

DESTRUCTIVE STORM. "Souris presents a scene of ruin today. Some \$30,000 worth of property lies scattered among the rocks, and two hundred destitute seamen can be seen at this moment strolling about in distress and want, many of whom escaped without shoes, hats or jackets. The beach is strewn with wrecks. The old-fashioned hospitality of the Highlands beams forth afresh on this distressing occasion: the houses are thrown open; the tables are spread with the bounty of the earth, the forest and the sea; the sufferers partake with gratitude... The unfortunate fishermen came into this harbour for shelter on Thursday last, while the wind blew fresh from the N. E., and remained till Friday eve, at which time a temporary calm took place. In the meantime the sky darkened, and the atmosphere portended all that followed, but none surmised that any wind would blow from the South. However, at 9 p.m. a heavy squall struck from the S.S.W., directly in the harbour, and from that hour till Saturday noon it continued to blow a hurricane. Several vessels came on shore between 10 and 11, and by midnight there were twenty-one vessels stranded and piled up in every way against the very cliffs, and I can assure you we had a disagreeable night of it, for we had to haul the most of them up by lines, which took us all night. Today all is confusion and covers all eyes to take advantage of this fine day, in saving all from the wrecks — in the meantime many are gone home today in fishing vessels from Georgetown."

The Age-Old Story

Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat; all therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not... We unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

The Harassed Herring

(St. John Telegraph-Journal) The herring has no friends. From birth to death he is pursued by voracious enemies. He leads the life of a terror-stricken fugitive. Out in the Bay of Fundy he is chased by countless hungry bigger fish, whose appetite sometimes leads them to grief — as in the case of the forty-two foot whale that got tangled up in a herring weir at Grand Manan the other day and finally had to be killed with a dynamite blast. Fishermen along the coast are often grateful to the whales and other sea denizens for driving the herring schools in toward their weirs. Very often, though, they have cause to regret the enthusiasm of the pursuers, which get enmeshed in the nets or weirs and do serious damage. Occasionally, too, a tuna weighing from 400 to 800 pounds thrashes around in a coastal weir before escaping or being harpooned. The poor herring, in such circumstances, finds itself literally between the devil and the deep blue sea. If it stays around, the tuna will eat it; if it ventures out into the bays, dogfish and dozens of other species will welcome the tidbit. Usually, of course, the herring that finds its way into a weir is safe, behind the net curtain, from pursuit by its huge adversaries; safe, that is, until the fishermen's dories arrive and it starts the journey to the cannery.

Books Received

STORMSWEEP by Stanley C. Tiller (The Ryerson Press, 213 pp. \$2.75) is a stirring tale of life along the storm-swept coast of Newfoundland. Storms, ice-flow, schooner racing, treacherous fogs, mysterious castaways are encountered against a background of poverty and courage which makes the book both readable and memorable. CANADIAN MASTER TAX GUIDE (COH Canadian Limited, 328 pp. \$3.) is the 8th edition of this condensation of the two volume Tax Reporter. In concise form and well indexed is given the effect of Income, Excise Succession Duty and Company taxes, a decidedly handy publication when the answer to tax problems is wanted rather than the means by which the answer is arrived at.

The Color In Cheddar

(Ottawa Journal) It is curious how prejudice, preconceived ideas and local habit influence the food likes and dislikes of people. The average Canadian's attitude towards cheese illustrates this as well as anything, for most Canadians have very definite views on cheese. As cheese is very much in the news these days—there is a "cheese festival" under way across Canada — I make rather an interesting subject. A great many Canadians, more in rural areas than in the cities, persist in their liking and demand for colored cheddar. Just why this should be nobody knows but it is probably the result of habit. Early Canadian and U. S. makers put a bit of harmless, and tasteless, vegetable coloring in their cheese.

The Poet's Corner

INDIAN SUMMER Along the line of smoky hills The crimson forest stands, And all the day the blue-jay calls Throughout the autumn lands. Now by the brook the maple leans With all his glory spread, And all the sumachs on the hills Have turned their green to red. Now by great marshes wrapt in mist, Or past some river's mouth, Throughout the long, still autumn days Wild birds are flying south. —Wilfred Campbell.

J. A. Carruthers R.O.

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Notes By The Way

Mr. James Colburn came from Richmond, Virginia, to London with a 1 lb. steak wrapped in brown paper. He put it on top of his suitcase outside the Airways Terminal in Buckingham Palace-road whistled for a taxi and lost his steak to three stray dogs. —London Daily Mail.

Calling a spade a spade and a lie a lie or an aggressor an aggressor, clearly, is going to change Soviet plans no more than the building up of Western Europe's defensive strength. But it can increase our own strength by showing up Soviet propaganda for what it is to all whose natural tendency is to oppose aggression — Washington Post.

It is not enough that Korea has been saved from aggression, momentous though that fact is. Korea will be and should be a show window in Asia to indicate how well or poorly the Western free world can in the phrase of Secretary Acheson, "bring hope to millions whose most urgent needs are for food, land and human dignity." — Christian Science Monitor.

If the sheep industry is to flourish, it is most important that restrictions on dogs land down to protect sheep, are rigidly enforced. Unless the farmer is assured that he will enjoy the protection of the law, that killer dogs will not be permitted to roam at large and attack his flocks, he will naturally hesitate to invest in sheep-rasings. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

The severe and continuing fire hazard has prompted the official closing of New Brunswick forests. The ban on forest travel will probably save not only stands of timber but human lives as well. The plain blunt fact is that in New Brunswick as in Nova Scotia, the hunting season usually brings with it a series of needless tragedies. It is distressingly common to hear of innocent people shot down by hunters' guns. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

For those who say young Canadians have lost the spark and resourcefulness of their fathers, here is a thought or two. What about the thousands of young men who are building their own homes? Where can you find a settlement in Canada—from the fishing hamlets of Newfoundland to the metro-

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Grid of professional cards including: J. P. MacPherson & Son (Men's Clothing), J. A. Carruthers R.O. (Optometrist), M. Alban Farmer (Barrister), MacPhee & Trainor (Barristers), Dr. W. R. Carson (Chiropractor), Joseph R. MacMillan (Barrister), J. S. Taylor (Optometrist), Frederic A. Large, K.C. (Barrister), Chas. R. McQuaid (Barrister), A. Wathen Gaudet (Barrister), H. R. Doane & Co. (Chartered Accountants), and McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants).