

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1953

Easter Message

It is easy in the northern hemisphere to grasp the Easter message of the Resurrection. All around are reminders in the form of quickening nature. Water runs everywhere after what is usually a winter silence. Plant and animal life take on renewed life and man himself feels a new joy in living.

Joy and life are essential parts of the Easter message. Even the most secular recognize the spirit of the season by renewed interest in what they wear and eat. Their reasons may be obscure even to themselves but few can altogether resist the Easter spirit.

The great music inspired by the Season can today be heard by people everywhere, rather than by the favoured few. In this country we enjoy a large freedom of worship as well as of thought and action. It is a freedom we should prize the more because so many others have been deprived of it.

Easter lilies are, like Easter music, symbols of the joyful season. They breathe of life and beauty. Shakespeare spoke of sermons in stones. The sermons today are derived from living things. Death has been relegated to the status of a doorway rather than the end of life.

Miscarriages Of Justice

The Crown has never paid compensation for a miscarriage of justice in Canada, although the injured person may suffer damage as real as that sustained by a man who is maliciously libelled, or who is struck by a motor vehicle. The issue has now been raised in the Commons by Mr. John Diefenbaker, member for Lake Centre. The issue does not affect acquittal cases, but those where a conviction is obtained and a person imprisoned or executed, only to have his innocence established later. The most recent case of this kind is that of Ronald Power, the young Nova Scotian who was convicted, through mistaken identity, of a crime he did not commit and who spent 10 months in Toronto's Don Street jail before the error was discovered. He received nothing for his loss of income during this period, or for other possible damage, such as mental anguish and injury to his reputation.

The Crown could pay compensation as an act of generosity, but it is not compelled to do so. Mr. Stuart Garson, the Minister of Justice, argues that if the Crown were actionable in such cases, only the provinces could administer the claims, since they have jurisdiction over their own courts. By inference, Mr. Garson supports the principle of compensation, for he does not argue against it. He deals merely with the question of administration.

Surely, argues the Ottawa Citizen, an administrative difficulty should not be allowed to perpetuate an injustice when there is agreement on the question of principle. It is true that the provinces are responsible for the administration of justice. But as Mr. Diefenbaker points out, the federal authorities appoint the judges. If the Federal Government takes responsibility to that extent, it seems reasonable it should take responsibility where a claim for compensation is laid. Moreover, if the issue were left entirely to the provinces to decide, 10 sets of rules might be drawn up, with some provincial governments giving its citizens more equitable treatment than others.

Troubles At Home

John MacCormac, New York Times correspondent in Vienna, cables a description of conditions in Soviet satellites behind the Iron Curtain which conceivably could explain the conciliatory note just now being struck by Moscow. Thus: POLAND—A recent increase of industrial and agricultural prices by between 50 and 100 per cent, with wage increases of but 12 to 27 per cent, bringing a substantial drop in an already low Polish standard of living. In the atmosphere of general discontent thus engendered, the regime has entered upon a stepped-up campaign against the Roman Catholic Church.

EAST GERMANY—Once the granary of the Reich, East Germany is in the throes of a food crisis. There, as in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, a purge with strong anti-Semitic flavor is under way. CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Passing through

political and economic convulsions. On top of fear and unrest produced by the bloodiest purges yet carried out in a "people's democracy", a coal shortage has retarded transportation, caused unemployment, and brought failure in the production and distribution of food.

HUNGARY—Last year's crop failure is making itself felt in a catastrophic lack of flour, bread, potatoes and milk.

ROMANIA—Also plagued by food shortages, partly as a result of bad crops, partly by a breakdown of city-country food exchange.

BULGARIA—Labor frozen to its jobs by a new law imposing imprisonment up to one year for leaving them. A further law makes an attempt to escape from the country a capital offence. Communist organ admitting that the campaign for "Socialist competition" in industry brought "appalling results."

A Worthy Cause

An Easter Monday play under the auspices of the St. Charles Auxiliary Society of the Charlottetown Hospital has become traditional, and this year will be no exception to the long established rule. The costs of hospital operation, as everyone knows, have been rising continually, and Monday's benefit performance will provide all our citizens with an opportunity of showing their appreciation of the splendid work the Charlottetown Hospital is doing, as well as of enjoying excellent entertainment.

The production this year is under the direction of Mr. F. M. MacIntyre and is a sparkling comedy entitled "Don't Darken My Door", supplemented with orchestra and specialty acts. The Auxiliary and cast deserve every support in their praiseworthy efforts, and it is expected that, as on other occasions, the attendance will be both large and appreciative.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Easter Day.

The eating of Hot Cross Buns at Easter is a custom of considerable antiquity. Special Easter cakes are traditional in many countries, frequently piously marked with a cross.

As a member of the Government the Hon. Alex. W. Matheson is responsible to the Legislature but he has made it clear that he has no intention of assuming responsibility for the Legislature. It is questionable, however, whether the Government can remain aloof from difficulties between the City and Province.

An amendment to the Marketing Act provides the Potato Marketing Board with authority to "fix and collect service charges from persons producing, packing, transporting, storing or marketing" potatoes. It substitutes "service charge" for "license fee" but otherwise hardly seems to make any change warranting the opposition it met in the House.

Since Federal legislation requires water conservation projects to be of sufficient size to make them of national importance before the Federal contribution of 37 1/2 per cent is forthcoming, it would seem desirable to have an overall conservation plan adopted to raise the water table in this Province. The numerous individual projects of damming and reforestation might have difficulty qualifying if taken separately.

Peat-roll engines are in the news. A gas turbine burning pulverised peat was successfully demonstrated in Lincoln, England, recently. This engine runs equally well on brown coal or lignite and engineers who are working on the project see no reason why it should not use tropical peat as well as sawdust, cotton seed husks, sugar cane stalks, and other combustible vegetable products.

Craftsmen are at work at Hammer-smith, London, modelling the Queen's Beasts. They are the arresting heraldic animals which will be one of the familiar Royal symbols of Coronation year. They will be the first to be seen in Britain since Henry VIII had a series made and they will occupy a prominent position outside the special annex to be constructed at Westminster Abbey.

William Henry Harrison, ninth president of the United States, died this date 1841. After seven years in the army he was elected governor of the North West territory, then governor of Indiana. He tried to prevent the sale of alcohol to the Indians, finally using force, defeating them at Tippecanoe in 1811. From 1811 to 1813 he was actively engaged in the war with Britain. Subsequently he was an Ohio senator, a U.S. senator and finally president, an office which he lived only one month to occupy.



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.

POTATO BOARD DEBATE

Sir,—On April 1st, there was a debate in the Legislature which should interest all farmers.

If there is any truth in the statement that there are only 2000 members in the Federation of Agriculture, it is time for us as farmers to do something about it. We feel assured that if there were 7000 members in the P. A. we would not have to read where any member of the Legislature objected to any legislation which would help us in our own problems.

The highest Fall prices ever recorded were during the Fall of 1952. This is sufficient proof that the board is doing its work well. The Federation meetings are called to take place in district school houses on the night of April 6th. This will be our opportunity to make sure we have our names on the list of farmers who believe that in unity there is strength.

MIRACLES

Sir,—A discussion with a friend about miracles has brought on this letter. He was seeking light for a passage of Scripture he had been reading. No, he is not a minister. He asked me this question: "How is it that the church today has got away from the miraculous doings of Apostolic days?"

I could discuss his question but I could not answer it. Jesus performed miracles, but he warned his followers against resting his claim to Messiahship on his miracles. They could help their faith in him. They could intimate that he had supernatural power, which he always used with complete self-control, and always for the good of others.

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Notes By The Ways

For tax purposes the city of Pasadena wants to know if dancing provided by its youth program, is physical exercise or amusement. In youth program, we'd say, it's both, and twenty years later it's neither. — Statford Beacon-Herald

Uncharted holidays break into the school schedules in a way to cause difficulty at times and in many cases the teachers who also get the day off do not appreciate it. They agree that with about two weeks at Christmas, more at Easter, Saturdays every week and national holidays added to the two months of mid-summer, all concerned are doing quite well as it is. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle

The bar sinister has been drawn across the maples of University Avenue. Their parentage is in doubt, which is a shocking thing to happen to the family tree of

The Poet's Corner

When all the world is young, lad And all the trees are green; And every goose a swan, lad, And every lass a queen; Then hey for boot and horse, lad, And round the world away; Young blood must have its course, lad, And every dog his day.

When all the world is old, lad, And all the trees are brown; And all the sport is stale, lad, And all the wheels run down; Creep home, and take your place there, The spent and maimed among; God grant you find one face there You loved when all was young.

sea and it shall remove". Of course, he meant mountains of difficulty, deadly persecution, impossible tasks. Nothing in the world along the line of God's will would be for them impossible. Jesus would have us understand another thing about faith. It is a community matter as well as individual. One man's faith must be backed up by the church's faith; and today, generally, the faith of the church and her moral life do not warrant God giving miraculous power to His people. The confusion it would cause would not glorify God and build up His kingdom.

He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto God the Lord belong the issues from death.

NEW!

At last—a complete Welfare Plan for the smaller firms employing 10-24 persons, providing in one contract Group Life Insurance and Accident & Health Insurance; Hospital, Medical & Surgical Benefits for employees and their dependents.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer GREAT EXPECTATIONS

For a good many years now I have been in the practice of taking my rod out of its case, preparatory to its annual overhauling, on or about the 15th of March. Occasionally, for one reason or another, I have put it off to St. Patrick's Day. This year, for the first time, the ceremony did not take place until All Fool's Day. Whether or not this has any special significance is a question I am not prepared to answer.

Whatever may be said about anglers in general it will be admitted that they are noted for harboring great expectations, that in their hearts. I would go so far as to say that the expectation is the best part of the fun of fishing, better even than the catch itself. If we knew for certain how many fish we were going to get on any particular trip, or whether we were to get any at all, most of us would just as soon stay at home. At the very moment I took my rod out of its winter hiding place on Wednesday morning, great expectations filled my heart. This year I will do much better than last. Bigger trout will come to my lures and fewer of them will get away. There will be more water in the streams, better fishing weather, more southerly winds. I shall profit by last year's mistakes and errors in judgment. This business of fishing all day and sometimes far into the night with nothing to show for it is a thing of the past. In all probability I will be one of the "Opening Day" prize winners, a distinction which so far has never fallen to my lot.

How do I know these things? Well, to be perfectly truthful, I don't know them. I know, I express these expectations I am simply following the tradition of the cult, a tradition that allows no room for little hopes. By the time the season is over I shall very likely be a sadder and a wiser man, but that can wait. I would, as a poor specimen of a fisherman if I proceeded on the basis of past experience and permitted matter of fact realism to govern my plans. The cult would disown me and I doubt if, in such circumstances, I could even get a license. Certainly I would not deserve one.

Where to go on Opening Day is always a matter that gives me plenty to think about for two or three weeks prior to that great day in the calendar. The Island roads are not too helpful at this time of the year and, for some reason, the pavement never seems to reach the best fishing places. Only about a year ago I brought this matter to the attention of the Honorable Mr. McKinnon but, apparently, my suggestion that all other sections should be neglected in favour of the trout spots did not get beyond the consideration stage.

I am almost certain that I could get my limit at a little stream only a stone's throw from my own place. The trip could be made on foot in a matter of minutes. It isn't likely, however, that the first day will find me in that particular spot. For no reason at all except that distance lends en-

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