

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, JULY 6, 1953

Highway Safety Week

Safety, particularly traffic safety, is very largely an attitude of mind. The mental attitude of road users is reflected in such things as rate of speed, mechanical efficiency and state of sobriety. Even more directly it shows in the behaviour of motorists at every intersection, their consideration or lack of it for other drivers and pedestrians. Above all it is reflected in the accident rate.

Safety Week is being sponsored in Charlottetown by the Junior Chamber of Commerce but they seek the co-operation of one and all to help dramatize the need for highway safety. The Highways and Attorney General's Departments, insurers, hospitals, and literally the man-in-the-street are vitally interested in checking the rapid increase in accidents.

Traffic has steadily increased and will continue to do so. Built-in safety features in our newer streets and highways cannot alone compensate for the larger number of vehicles and the higher speeds of travel. It is up to every road-user to become and remain safety conscious. To be aware of danger is probably the most important step in avoiding it.

When every precaution of mechanical efficiency and obedience to the law has been taken the main thing that remains is courtesy. The driver or pedestrian who shows consideration for the other fellow makes a vitally important contribution to the safety of everyone including himself.

Weather Ships

At Brighton, England, the International Civil Aviation Organization is calling a meeting this month of the fourteen nations which, since 1948, have maintained twenty-four weather ships in the North Atlantic. The purpose of the conference is to arrange to carry on this service for a further period of years.

These twenty-four ships are based in European ports, chiefly Greenock, Scotland, although some are from the northern continental ports. Originally, they were commissioned to provide rescue facilities for trans-Atlantic air flights as well as information about the weather. But it is notable that not once in five years have these particular vessels been called upon to rescue the passengers or crew of an aircraft in distress.

The ships each carry a complement of fifty-three men. They spend twenty-seven days at sea and fifteen in port and they are scattered over the North Atlantic to form a grid. They send weather reports to European weather stations and four times each day they send a balloon containing recording instruments up to a height of 50,000 feet.

Europe and North America in particular, benefit from this service in obtaining more accurate weather forecasts.

Mineral Hunt in Newfoundland

The greatest mineral hunt in the history of Newfoundland is now taking place in all parts of the province, reports the St. John's Evening Telegram. Teams of survey and prospecting parties from Brinco and Nalco as well as units from the Department of Mines and Resources are combing old and new mineral grounds, checking survey reports made previously and looking over discarded mines. It is one phase in the development program stimulated in an effort to find alternative sources of employment and also to discover if, or not, the island contains any extensive mineral deposits hitherto untapped.

The pioneer geologists made exhaustive surveys of Newfoundland and were successful in uncovering many mineral lodes. Their reports have been helpful to present day geologists but in many instances the original findings and surveys stated that insufficient quantities of certain minerals existed to make them profitable to mine. They found lead, limestone, gold phosphate, manganese, graphite, copper, lead-zinc, gypsum, marl, peat, fluorspar, chromite, asbestos, strontianite, gypsum, garbets, coal, marble, cement rock, nickel, antimony, barite, brick clay, salt, oil shale, molybdenum, iron, soapstone, feldspar, arsenic, slate, granite, chromium, bismuth, titanium, etc. Out of this imposing list of minerals to date only iron at Bell Island, zinc-lead-copper at Buchans, limestone at Aquathua and

fluorspar at St. Lawrence are being mined. There is hope, however, that the present surveys will uncover sufficient quantities of some of the minerals to warrant new mines being started.

The mining history of Newfoundland shows, however, that the island did enjoy a mining boom, especially in copper in the late 1800's which continued until after World War I. The earliest attempts at mining in Newfoundland were on the Avalon Peninsula, says a Geological Report. About 1778 a copper vein at Shoal Bay, 12 miles south of St. John's was worked for a short time. It was reopened in 1839 but again proved unsuccessful. More encouraging results were obtained in the lead mine at La Manche in Placentia Bay, where operations commenced in 1857 and flourished until 1873. The returns from this mine are said to have helped finance the laying of the first trans-atlantic cables at a point near La Manche by Cyrus W. Field and associates in 1858 and 1866. A couple of years ago geologists and mining engineers made a new survey of the La Manche project in the hope that the mine could be reopened but apparently insufficient quantities of lead were found to make the venture profitable.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Charlottetown's Little Theatre Guild is looking to the future in starting a fund towards acquiring a playhouse. It may turn out to be beyond their capacity to achieve but if a start were not made there would certainly be no playhouse.

On the principle that industry begets industry the production in this Province of Perfection Evaporated Milk may well lead to considerable industrial development. The most directly to be affected, of course, will be dairy production but the full effect of such a development on the Island economy should be far beyond that.

As of today some of the financial risk of fishing is no longer unavoidable. Losses there will always be but fishermen can at any rate avoid crippling losses by taking advantage of the insurance offered by the Federal Government.

It seems that Premier W. A. C. Bennett and his successful Social Credit Party will change or drop altogether the alternative voting system. It is one of those things that appear just and reasonable on paper but are too cumbersome and difficult to use satisfactorily.

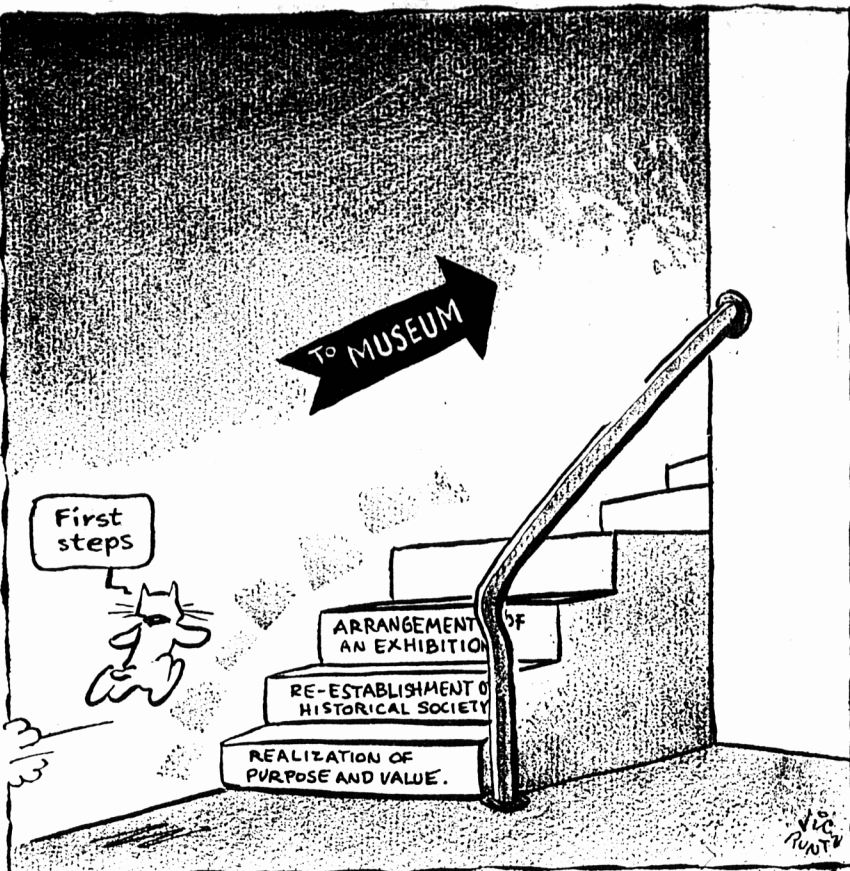
With a grant of £15,000 from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Clubs is planning to expand the movement in the more outlying parts of Scotland and to recruit younger members. Previously the lowest age of membership of Young Farmers' Clubs was 14; it is now being brought down to 12.

The proposal of the chairman of the Potato Marketing Board that a potato pool be set up on the lines of the Wheat Pool will appeal to farmers who received the low price at the end of the past season. One complication, however, is the poor keeping qualities of potatoes. Wheat can be and frequently is held over from year to year, an impossibility with potatoes.

Guy de Maupassant, French novelist and poet, died this date 1893. He fought in the Franco-German war in the Ministry of Marine. He early came under the influence of Flaubert and as a novelist was the last of the naturalists. He was a master of the vivid and accurate reproduction of life which he himself had observed with a wonderful intensity. His style is simple, but most effective. He published a large number of collections of short stories.

The family allowance question has been the cause of much debate since Hon. J. W. Pickersgill entered the political field and was tabbed the father of this piece of welfare legislation. Who originated Family Allowances? According to the St. John's, Newfoundland, Telegram, it was not the late Mackenzie King, Brooke Claxton, Paul Martin or Jack Pickersgill. "The records of what is now the United Church in Newfoundland show that the above gentlemen were not even a gleam in their grandmothers' eyes when Family Allowances were being distributed in Newfoundland. The records show that as far back as 1840—yes, 113 years ago—some children in Newfoundland were receiving Family Allowances. The old and honoured Wesleyan Missionary Committee of London in its pioneering days of operation in Newfoundland made the necessary provisions for their representatives and families and here are a few of the entries in 'The District Account Book' for the years 1840-45."

Getting There



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents or questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

WHY NOT A NATIONAL MUSEUM?

Sir,—Permit me through the medium of your column to congratulate the P. E. I. Historical Society for the commendable job of establishing a museum in the Y. M. C. A. building during the summer months. The enormous task of collecting and cataloging the many valuable items must be very difficult with the added handicap of not having a permanent building. Rather than have to disperse the collection in the Fall, it should be possible to put them on display in glass showcases, located in the Provincial Building. Too, an amateur archaeological group might be formed in conjunction with the Historical Society consisting of teachers, students, and other interested persons, that could explore possible Indian and early settlement grounds with the hope of unearthing valuable information. Those advocating a museum have been ignoring the most logical site in Canada, that is, the Provincial Government Buildings, not merely as a Provincial Museum, but as a National Museum. This building, containing the Confederation Room, is the birthplace of our nation and should be preserved as such. Comparable to Independence Hall in Philadelphia, many items, particularly in conjunction with Confederation, could be enshrined therein as a monument to the growth of Canada. The cost would be more than the Provincial Government could be expected to sustain by itself, however, because of the national significance of such a museum, the Federal Government should be induced to reimburse the Provincial Government sufficiently to construct a new Provincial Building, housing the necessary offices, assembly rooms, etc. I am sure, everyone working in the present building will endorse this suggestion. Canada then would have a national show window, the Island would have a tremendous tourist attraction and the Provincial Government would have new, adequate, and convenient working space. Everyone would derive some benefit from this project. I am, Sir, etc., INTERESTED CITIZEN

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CROWN LANDS

From the report of a special committee presented to the House of Assembly, Feb. 23, 1844, "The gross amount derived from the sale of Crown lands in Georgetown and Royalty, to the first of January last, is £2,297 15s. 3d., and out of this large sum there has only been £187 11s. 10d. laid out in opening the Royal roads, or for any other public improvement in the town or neighborhood. Your committee find, by the accounts furnished to the House, that the balance on hand on the sale of Crown lands is £2,151 4s., and they beg to remark, that two-thirds of this sum has been derived from the sale of lands in Georgetown and Royalty, and they feel called upon to state, that if a proper representation made by the House of Assembly, they feel assured that a portion of the above moneys would be applied for the opening of the Main Royal Road to the Town, and other branch roads throughout the Royalty, a measure in justice due to the inhabitants of the Town and Royalty who, by their exertions and outlay of capital, have rendered the neighboring Crown lands more valuable."

Senator Crerar On King

Canadian Press

Hon. T. A. Crerar, 77-year-old Senator and for 10 years a cabinet colleague of the late Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, claims his former leader was not the "statesman" he appears to be in Bruce Hutchison's book, "The Incredible Canadian."

The Manitoba senator, whom Mackenzie King appointed to the upper chamber in 1945, has written a review of parts of the Hutchison book for the International Journal, quarterly publication of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

Senator Crerar suggests that Mackenzie King, who died three years ago, was not a statesman in the sense that Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Robert Borden and Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen were statesmen. The record-breaking Liberal leader was "an extraordinarily skilful political manager," but "even here the goddess of luck smiled upon him," Senator Crerar writes.

From his long political association with Mackenzie King Senator Crerar writes that he believes his former leader had "a sense of mission" that developed his inner confidence and drove him to the success he achieved. "For what purpose?" Senator Crerar asks. "Was the basic governing principle the public good? That is indeed doubtful. Rather it seems to me to have been the determination to restore and bring to a pinnacle the prestige of the family name."

Senator Crerar describes Mackenzie King as "utterly ruthless," and this ruthlessness "by no means had always to do with public policy." In this he is in agreement with the Hutchison book. But he describes as "inadequate" Hutchison's handling of the episode in 1926 when the then Governor General, Lord Byng, refused to grant Mackenzie King dissolution of Parliament and called on Meighen to form a government when the Liberals were in trouble over revelations of scandals in the customs department.

Mackenzie King should have granted dissolution, Senator Crerar writes, but nevertheless Byng was constitutionally right in not granting it. The circumstance was fortunate for Mackenzie King, in Senator Crerar's opinion. If he had been granted dissolution he would have lost the election because the issue would have been the customs scandals.

He was refused and Mr. Meighen formed a short-lived government and the subsequent election was fought on the constitutional issue raised by Byng's refusal to accept the advice of the prime minister. The customs scandals were forgotten.

Senator Crerar said the Hutchison book was interesting with the interest "sustained on every page." It was "not a biography in any real meaning of that term; Mr. Hutchison had no access to any official papers."

But, he said, the author had attempted to fit Mackenzie King "into a frame where he did not belong and this appears to be the basis for Mr. Hutchison's claim that King was a greater statesman than either Macdonald or Laurier."

"This gives pliancy to the book but makes little contribution to history... Very few will agree with this tribute to Mr. King's statesmanship."

Senator Crerar defined statesmanship: "The real test of statesmanship in those entrusted with high authority lies in the good or bad consequences that flow on down through the years from their actions and decisions when they occupy seats of power." He says the book gave "too heavy emphasis" on the past Mackenzie

Notes By The Way

Go to any picnic and then try to believe that there were only two ants in the ark.—Sudbury Star.

One of life's major surprises awaits the girl who gets married because she's tired of working.—Edmonton Journal.

The top of the world, says Edmund Hillary of Everest, "is a rounded cone, quite roomy." Thanks, but for now anyway we'll stay where we are.—Ottawa Journal.

A couple recently married told the reporters that they met for the first time on a ferry wheel. No doubt they had the usual ups and downs, and went around together for a while.—Ottawa Evening Citizen.

Seventy per cent of pipes for men are purchased by women. Therefore, manufacturers are making pipes in styles that will appeal to the feminine eye. Male tastes will be practically ignored. Such is a report noted. Truly a depressing situation. It indicates the extent to which pipe smokers are dominated by their wives. A man certainly must be completely subdued when he permits his wife to direct what shape pipe he should smoke.—St. Catharines Standard.

One of the most graphic illustrations of Canadian loyalty to the Queen was the sight of a tiny shack, far back in the bush and scarcely visible from the highway, but bravely flying two small flags to mark Coronation Day. It was such a forlorn little gesture, but such a meaningful one. The residents knew their tiny decorations would be seen by practically no one—yet this did not deter them from tacking up the bright colored bunting so that they could feel they had some part in the nationwide expression of loyalty to Her Majesty.—North Bay Nugget.

Politics becomes an even more hazardous occupation than before if the politician has to worry not only about his phrasing but his profile as it will appear in a thousand living rooms. It also becomes a more expensive business, for the speaker will have to consider not only his ability to speak but his talent for acting. He may need not only a speech writer, but a coach in dramatics. As things are going, the candidate of genuine but inarticulate ability may give way to the smooth and polished actor. Perhaps Parliament will tend to be filled by Canadian counterparts of Mickey Rooney and Clark Gable. Whether that will represent progress, remains to be seen.—Toronto Telegram.

A reader recalls that the English periodical Truth, which denounces Canadians as a lot of dull fellows, is the same Truth which many years ago, blasted our Canadian Pacific Railway, declaring it would never earn enough to pay for its axle-grease.—Ottawa Journal.

Canada needs to shake up its thinking about the problem of old age and especially about the place of older people in business and industry. If not, Canadians may face a declining standard of living within twenty years. Our population is fast growing older and that's serious. Every thinking Canadian must see that the policy of early retirement of workers discourages men and women from contributing to the productive forces of the nation and adds to the load of non-producers carried by the economy.—Vancouver Sun.

A report from the World Health Organization shows that 1952 was a bad polio year in many parts of the world, including North America. Both the United States and Canada recorded the highest number of infantile paralysis cases in their histories during 1952. In England and Wales the increase in polio cases in 1952 was fifty per cent over the previous year; in Canada the increase was seventy-six per cent and in the United States it was 100 per cent. And in recent weeks the U. S. public health service reported there are indications that 1953 may be an even worse year for polio; that already the number of cases reported was thirty per cent ahead of the corresponding period in 1952. There is today the hopeful aspect that serious outbreaks may be held in check by gamma globulin, the new vaccine developed in the last two years.—Toronto Star.

A few days ago we happened to overhear a teacher of English tell a pupil: "Yuhr gonna leahh this I hafta beat it inna yuhr head." And we remembered a sentence we had read in the New York Times shortly after the Coronation. One of the most striking aspects of the Coronation ceremony, in the opinion of the Times, was "the beauty and dignity of the English language as spoken by those who loved it enough to preserve its beauty and dignity from generation to generation." Many people, who should know better, seem to be deliberately cultivating a sloppy manner of speech, as if they want to show what regular fellows they are by talking like race track touts. They sprinkle "ain'ts" through their conversation, and happily slaughter any combination like "going to."—Toronto Saturday Night.

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The Poet's Corner

FROM AFTER-THOUGHT

Ah, God! the petty fools of rhyme, That shriek and sweat in pigmy wars Before the stony face of Time, And look'd at by the silent stars; That hate each other for a song, And do their little best to bite, That pinch their brothers in the throng, And scratch the very dead for spite;— And strain to make an inch of room For their sweet selves, and cannot hear The sullen Lethe rolling doom On them and theirs, and all things here; When one small touch of Charity Could lift them nearer God-like State, Than if the crowded Orb should cry Like those that cried Diana great. —Lord Tennyson.

The Age Old Story

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.