

THE GUARDIAN

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The British Cheese Market

It is doubly disappointing in view of a recent statement by Agriculture Minister Gardiner, to force that the United Kingdom will likely be noted to discontinue purchases of Canadian cheddar cheese. Last year 25,000,000 pounds were purchased at a price of more than \$7,500,000 but Britain's financial crisis has made the continuance of this arrangement impossible. At a recent meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Mr. Gardiner had given assurance that his colleague, Finance Minister Abbott, was finding new ways to finance British purchases of Canadian agricultural production.

As Saturday Night notes in an editorial in its current issue, Mr. Abbott unhappily was doing nothing of the kind, nor had he any opportunity to do anything of the kind. British people very badly need more food from Canada, and Canadian farmers would be delighted to produce the food for them if they could pay for it. But the baffling fact is that they cannot pay. In the present circumstances, adds Saturday Night, it is "unkindly deceptive" to hold out hopes for increased British expenditure on Canadian food. "This was one of the Gardiner long shots that landed far into the rough."

Our dairy producers will undoubtedly be adversely affected by the elimination of the British market for cheese, and it behooves Mr. Gardiner and his associates at Ottawa to seek every means of obtaining substitute markets.

Medicine's New Era

Delivering the Dalton lecture to the Royal Institute of Chemistry, Lord McGowan (Manchester Guardian report) spoke in part as follows:

The most striking applications of chemical knowledge in the last century have been in the fields of medicine and surgery. In 1851, for instance, smallpox was common and there was considerable risk of typhus, typhoid, and even cholera. The death rate was about 22 per 1,000, or practically double what it is today.

Chemotherapy—the treatment of disease by means of chemical substances—has introduced a new and great era of medicine. Among the medical discoveries mentioned are the anti-bacterial properties of penicillin by Fleming, and its development as an antibiotic by Florey and Chain; the sulpha drugs, thanks to which pneumonia is no longer "captain of the men of death" and puerperal fever is now becoming comparatively rare; the development of the sulphone group of drugs against leprosy; and Paludrine, which gives complete immunity from malarial symptoms or blood infection.

"A Hair Of The Dog..."

Owners of shaggy dogs in Communist Hungary must turn over to the state all hair more than three-quarters of an inch in length. The hair, it seems, is urgently needed for industrial purposes. Authorities in Zagreb state that a reasonable remuneration will be paid to shaggy dog owners who co-operate. Dire punishment is threatened for those who defy the national interest by failing to keep their poches trimmed to within the three-quarters of an inch decreed by law.

Official Ottawa, concerned with increasing industrial output in this country, might find it worthwhile to request the Canadian diplomatic mission in Zagreb to keep them posted on the potentialities of dog hair for defence. After all, Canada can probably justly lay claim to a larger shaggy dog population than Yugoslavia.

Such a scheme to step up production in Canada would, however, probably call for some amendment of the criminal code. Owners of shaggy dogs in this country are undoubtedly as patriotic as the rest of us. Nevertheless, some legal sanction might be called for before sheep farmers and cattlemen would respond to the notion of shorn collies. Likewise a lot of elderly ladies now prone to look with favor on Ottawa by virtue of \$40 cheques received a few days ago, might change their minds about the Liberals if some noney parker equipped with clippers turned up to trim Fido.

Ottawa, if wisdom prevails, will content itself for the time being at least, with trimming the taxpayer.

EDITORIAL NOTES

London is seeing such a galaxy of royalty such as did not even take part in the obsequies of George V, 16 years ago.

Fifty-one is not old age today but those who have reached that milestone have lived under no fewer than six sovereigns.

One of the first sad duties of the newly elected City Council will be to attend as a body the memorial service at the Armouries for his late Majesty the King.

"P. J." would have been proud of having one son a member of the Legislature for the city and another a City Councillor at the same time.

The Junior Farmers Federation are advertising their intention of again sponsoring a debating competition for which they invite entries.

A Canadian Governor General could have taken part in the final tribute to His Majesty instead of a Governor General designate. He could have been sworn in on Canadian soil, a bit of Nova Scotia within a stone's throw of Edinburgh Castle.

The uncomfortably strong opposition met in the air by U. N. fliers is the result in part of the enemy possessing bases and supply routes which are out of bounds to U. N. attack. It is, however, a reminder of the constant necessity of maintaining the pace of technical improvement.

Today special memorial services for the late King are advertised to be held at St. Peter's Cathedral, 8:15 a.m.; St. Paul's 10:30 a.m.; Salvation Army at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. (children); the Armouries at 2:15 p.m.; and at Trinity at 8 p.m. In the Catholic Churches, Masses at the usual hours.

It was anticipated that the Hon. Mr. Rinfret's transference from the Post Office to the Bench would be simultaneous with the announcement of other official appointments, including Senatorships. Evidently the Prime Minister is satisfied to fill the vacancies in "penny numbers", one at a time.

The various ways in which Britain and Canada mark this day of mourning are equally fitting. The King would have been the first to protest against the loss of a full day's productivity by the United Kingdom when every effort is being bent to balance the flow of imports with exports to this hemisphere.

Mr. Norman S. Tyndall, 24, and Mr. E. Eugene Timbers, 18, Ontario tractor and horse ploughing champions, respectively, are in Britain to take part in the West of England Ploughing Match at Newlyn East, and in the North of Ireland International Ploughing Match at Belfast. They are the youngest team ever to represent Canada in these matches.

Jeremy Bentham, English writer on law and political economy, was born this date 1748. He was widely recognized and honoured abroad long before the value of his work was realized in his native land. The astonishing scope and advancement of his proposed reforms included such things as parliamentary representation, the criminal law, prisons, imprisonment for debt, the jury system, merchant shipping, legislative drafting, savings banks, postage, census returns, national education, public health, copyright and abolition of secret diplomacy.

The injury which Premier Maurice Duplessis suffered in a recent fall has now been diagnosed as a minor fracture of a vertebra which will necessitate his wearing a small cast for the next three months. He is expected to be discharged from Ross Memorial Pavilion of Royal Victoria Hospital in the next few days. The injury is not serious, and no lasting ill-effects are anticipated by attending medical men, but it is necessary for the Premier to discharge his official duties from his bed.

According to the Canadian Association of Broadcasters "CBC now receives a Government subsidy from general tax funds of \$6,250,000 per year. This is in addition to \$5,500,000 a year in license fees, and just under two and a half million a year in commercial revenue. This subsidy of very close to \$12,000,000 a year is spent to attract an average of 11.9% only of Canadian listeners, thus more than 80% of Canadians benefit in no way from this subsidy since they do not care to tune in CBC-produced programmes." On the other hand, newspapers are paid nothing in the way of Government subsidy, and have to carry on in competition with Government radio as best they can on a purely business basis. Yet it is on the newspapers that both public and Government depend to carry effectively the news of the day.

A Last Farewell



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 COUNTRY DOCTOR

Sir.—Our country doctor is only a human being and not a piece of machinery, who has been in medical practice for thirty years in Hunter River and the surrounding district for many miles. The district of North Rustico is ten miles from this genial doctor and there has been an epidemic of measles followed by a dozen or more cases of pneumonia, besides other illnesses. It is only through Divine Providence and the skillful hand of Dr. J. R. Murchison that every child has come through the ordeal.

The question is, has the Department of Public Works and Highways given us a fair deal with the snow plough? I would say No, as there have been as many as three or four days after a storm during which we have never seen a plough, and our doctor has made calls when it was almost impossible. He has made as many as three trips in one day, administering to the sick children.

It is of no use to phone the Department for a plough; the answer is that the plough is on the way down, and you see it three days later. I may say that when I was President of this branch of the Canadian Legion, I asked one of the officials about opening the road so that we could get a doctor. The answer was "Let him take a horse and sled, the same as they did forty years ago." It must be remembered that we had five doctors within the same area, and Dr. Murchison could not cover his sick calls in a week with a horse and sled.

As I said, he is not a piece of machinery, but very human. He knows what hardships are, as he spent many long months in the trenches in Flanders Fields as a soldier in World War One; and he is still fighting, only in a different way, going around administering to the sick and dying twenty-four hours a day, and doing an excellent job. Give him fair play and a decent road to travel on and he will get there!

I am, Sir, etc., ROY DOIRON North Rustico, P. E. I.

UNFAIR PRICE SPREAD

Sir.—I wonder if some one could give a satisfactory comment on the facts and questions listed below? I purchased some sausages along with other meats last week, and I was charged wholesale for the sausages 47 1/2 cts. per lb. I would have to retail them for 55 cts. per lb. Pork to the farmer, for the past three or four weeks was from 25c to 27c per lb.; this is, I understand, top price. In August, 1951, when pork was between 35 to 38c per lb., I still paid 47 1/2 cts. per lb. wholesale for sausages. This was August 6th invoice. From then on to late in November the price of sausages kept the same and pork prices to the farmer declined. In February, with prices below the fall and summer prices, we are charged the same price as in August. There seems to be quite a difference. In the summer there was a spread from 10 to 15c per lb. from the price paid to the farmer to the price the retailer paid wholesale; now at today's price the spread is around 23c. Wholesale prices should drop accordingly. How much longer will the consumer have to pay through the nose, or the farmer be given unfair prices? If the finished products are not going to come down in price, as the market drops, then

Royal Archers As Bodyguard

The oldest archery company still existing in Britain is the Royal Company of Archers, with headquarters at Edinburgh, which has records dating back to 1676. Although it began and remains a sporting society, it has acted since the reign of King George IV as King's Bodyguard for Scotland. When the reigning Sovereign visited Scotland the members of the Company, in their striking dark green uniforms and feathered bonnets, formed a bodyguard on ceremonial occasions.

In a history of "The Royal Company of Archers 1676-1951", published by William Blackwood and Sons, 45 George Street, Edinburgh 2, the author, Ian Hay, records that the members included Allan Ramsay, the Scottish poet, elected in 1743. Robert Burns, elected in 1792, and Sir Walter Scott, elected in 1821. This was apparently a period "when the Royal Company were much addicted to the commission of verse" and Ramsay had the title of the "Archers' Bard".

Today membership of the Company is an honour much sought after. Since World War II most of the shooting takes place in the gardens of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, but before then the range was on the Meadows, an expanse of green sward near Edinburgh Castle. It was there that, in 1791 a duel with bows and arrows took place between two members—but neither scored a hit. A contest is held triennially between teams from the Royal Company and the Woodmen of Arden, an old English archery society, whose headquarters are at Meriden in the ancient Forest of Arden at the very centre of England.

Writing A Report

(Royal Bank Monthly Letter) Nothing written is useful unless it is attractive enough to be read. We are entitled to be as brilliant and interesting as we can be, so long as we observe the requirements of correctness, relevance and the objective.

Having written it, the writer would be well advised to forget about his report for as long as time permits. If he tries to make corrections and improvements as soon as he has finished the writing, his memory of what he meant to write may be so strong that he will overlook the shortcomings of what he actually wrote. Here are some questions to ask at the time of revision: Is my report fair, broad-minded and dignified? Have I used enough imagination in presenting the facts? Have I answered all the pertinent questions likely to arise in the reader's mind? Does my report read as if a human being wrote it? It is well to read the report aloud; if it is easy to read you may bank upon its being easy to understand. If you hesitate over a word, a phrase or a sentence, take a second look. Finally, don't allow yourself to

why should the farmer be forced to accept such low prices for his pork? If this keeps on, in nine months' time there will be no pork raised on P. E. I. With the price of feed so high, it will not pay him to produce pork. It takes from 700 to 900 lbs. of feed to finish a porker, and they cannot be fed for less than \$35.00. Add the price of the piglet on that, can a farmer make a decent profit on this deal? It is the same with eggs, the price is either too low or too high. Grading stations are paying around 32c, last year the price went to 70c, which was far too high. Let a price be set of around 45c to 48c and everyone would be happy. I am, Sir, etc., "RETAILER"

The Poet's Corner

REQUIEM

For tho' the Giant Ages heave the hill And break the shore, and evermore Make and break, and work their will; Tho' world on world in myriad myriads roll Round us, each with different powers, And other forms of life than ours, And that know we greater than the soul? On God and Godlike men we build our trust. Hush, the Dead March wails in the people's ears; The dark crowd moves, and there are sobs and tears; The black earth yawns: the mortal disappears; Ashes to ashes, dust to dust; He is gone who seem'd so great—Gone; but nothing can bereave him. Of the force he made his own Being here, and we believe him. Something far advanced in State, And that he wears a truer crown Than any wreath that man can weave him. Speak no more of his renown. Lay your earthly fancies down, And in the vast cathedral leave him. God accept him, Christ receive him. —Lord Tennyson.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) AN ELEGANT CRAFT "Launched, on Monday, the 13th inst., from the shipyard of James Keefe, Esq., Souris, a very handsome and well-modelled brig of 340 tons register, classed A1 for seven years at English Lloyd's. It is asserted, by those who profess to know, that this is the strongest and best-finished vessel ever built in King's County, while we may safely say that, for elegance of finish, she has never been surpassed on the Island. The cabins, which are very commodious, have been beautifully fitted up in oak, mahogany and walnut, and reflect much credit upon Mr. John McKay, of this City, under whose superintendence the work was done. She has also been fitted up with one of Coffin's Patent Union Screw Steerers, which is a great improvement over any steering apparatus hitherto used; while every care that skill could suggest has been given by Mr. Keefe throughout the building, in order to make her what she is—a first-class vessel. This fine craft, which has been called the 'Annabelle', was built for and is owned by Hon. Daniel Davies, and will be commanded by Capt. A. F. Yates, late master of the brig, 'Harry Davies.' —The Examiner, May 15, 1878.

Dr. A. L. MacIsaac

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Notes By The Way

Once some 60,000 people were employed in the catching and curing of fish. That was one-quarter of the population at the time. The number of people has grown and the number of fishermen has declined so that today fishermen do not constitute one-fourteenth of the population. But no other industry gives as much employment or spreads it as widely and so it remains as we have pointed out, a vital element in the economy. — St. John's News.

Until World War II, few Frenchmen wanted to emigrate, for their country had developed a new way of life that to them was gracious, leisurely, and wholly satisfying. Now, one in five wants to leave France. Especially is it true of skilled workers and professional men. It is indeed a sad commentary on the state of Europe that this should happen. — Ottawa Citizen.

In most parts of Canada, a majority of 10,000 or 15,000 for the successful candidate in a federal election is phenomenal. But here is news of a candidate in India defeating his single opponent (a member of the leading Congress party) at that) by more than 100,000 votes. This gives some idea of the magnitude of elections in the new democracy. — Ottawa Citizen.

When the committee in charge at Ottawa's famous International Dog derby postponed this annual event on the eve of its running on account of the King's death, it must have been confident of having understanding and co-operation in making new arrangements for the race. Instead of that, the bewildered committee finds itself assailed in bitter terms by officials of another dog derby at Lake Placid, New York. It is accused of trying to "scuttle" the revival of dog team racing in the United States, because the new Ottawa dates unfortunately conflict with those of the Lake Placid event. (Short of cancelling the international dog derby outright there seems to have been no practical alternative.) Pressure has been brought on two senators to compel a U. S. air force dog team from Goose Bay to compete at Lake Placid instead of here. This shoddy attempt to introduce power politics into sport is so far removed from the spirit of true sportsmanship that once again must wonder about the future of big competitions of all sorts. — Ottawa Citizen.

The Age-Old Story

And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever, And he touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils; and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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