

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, AUG. 13, 1953

Visiting Countrywomen

Canada is proud to be host to the seventh conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, meeting in Toronto from August 12-23 and this Province will be particularly proud to have visit our farm homes a group of 61 of the thousand delegates who will be making a tour of the Maritimes while other groups tour the various parts of Canada and the Eastern United States.

Although the A. C. W. W. was founded by a Canadian, who also founded the Women's Institutes in the United Kingdom, this is the first conference to be held in this country. Others were held in Vienna, 1930; Stockholm, 1933; Washington, 1936; London, 1939; Amsterdam, 1947 and Copenhagen, 1950.

The theme of the present conference is: how can the countrywoman, as an individual and through her society, take a more active part in international work? These delegates represent 124 rural women's organizations in 26 countries, all having the same objective, to raise the standards of living in rural areas. By their theme at the Toronto conference they recognize that only by working together internationally can conditions be satisfactorily improved in individual countries and communities.

The A. C. W. W. and the United Nations mutually recognize one another's value in achieving their respective but often similar aims. The relationship is not unlike that between Provincial governments and Women's Institutes, a partnership which has been of great value in raising the standards of rural life in this country.

Prospective Potato Orders

It is encouraging to note, from word received by the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board, that two large prospective orders for certified seed for South America are in the offing. With the big surplus indicated in United States potato acreage this year, every available means should be taken of obtaining other markets for our Maritime producers. Even if a large proportion of the prospective South American orders does not go directly to this Province, the transaction will relieve the home market and the effect cannot fail to be beneficial. It is hoped also that other foreign markets may be obtainable.

The Marketing Board is making every effort to develop these opportunities, and in so doing is performing a most valuable service to growers and dealers alike. This is one programme in which all interested in the potato trade can co-operate, and at this stage may be said to be of paramount importance to the industry.

History And Economics

Economists are delving into past statistics to try to discover the pattern that might be expected for commodity prices. The War of 1812, which was part of the Napoleonic convulsions of Europe, pushed prices on this continent to an 1814-15 high of about 250 per cent of the level of 100 years later, that of 1914. Within two years after the end of the war, the index had fallen to about 180 and 12 years later to 90. The Civil War in the United States sent prices to a high of 230 in 1864. Two years after that, the index was again at 180 and 12 years later again at 90. Following World War I the benefits of modern economic knowledge began to make themselves felt. Instead of peaking while the war was still on, prices rose almost two years more, reaching 240 in 1920. Eighteen months later, however, the old pattern had repeated itself, with the index down to 140. It reached the usual low of about 80 in 11 years.

World War II has been in a class by itself, for wholesale prices did not reach their peak until 1951, six years after the war. That peak was 260, and two years later the figure is still at 250. Obviously modern economics were not alone responsible. The usual demands of reconstruction were swelled by those of the cold war and the smaller hot wars.

But now, with Soviet Russia continuing almost daily its series of peaceful moves and the promise of a changed state of affairs in Korea, the question arises whether the stimulations of reconstruction, hot

wars and cold wars, are not on the wane all at the same time. If so, the Wall Street Journal counsels, the world of business had better look back once more at the economic teachings of history.

New Communist History

To commemorate their fiftieth anniversary, the Communists of Russia have published a new "history" of the Party from 1903 to 1953. It is, of course, important to the dictators of Russia that Communist students should always be in possession of an "authentic" history of Communism. The trouble has been that what was once applauded as orthodox might suddenly be denounced as deviationist and subversive.

In the past this problem has been solved by the clumsy and expensive expedient of rewriting and re-falsifying the official textbook. With each new edition the records of individuals who had formerly been honored but who had since fallen into disgrace were expunged from the text. A revised appraisal of their accomplishments was inserted or their names were simply consigned to oblivion.

With the new "history" such a revision is not so likely to become necessary. Only two human beings, Lenin and Stalin, are mentioned by name. No Party leader, not even, and perhaps significantly, Malenkov himself, can, by toppling from his pedestal, make it necessary to halt the presses and grind out a new and purified version of this remarkable book.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The report from Camp Shilo, Manitoba, of a low-flying plane striking the head of an officer riding in a jeep seems to originate from army sources. It would not be too surprising if the R. C. A. F. has it that the jeep was bouncing and struck the wing of the aircraft.

At long last postmasters are to be paid on the basis of mail delivered as well as mail posted, it was recently announced by Mr. W. J. Turnbull, deputy postmaster general. Another victory for the Canadian Postmasters' Association is that the department will arrange to provide for a voluntary deduction of association fees at source.

The shortage of skilled workmen forecast by the Canadian director of the International Labour Organization no doubt has many causes. The cure depends upon giving workers some security that their training will not prove to have been wasted as well as upon industry and government co-operating to provide opportunity for apprenticeship training.

The bestowal of an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon His Excellency Bishop Boyle by St. Francis Xavier University will be appreciated by all classes of our citizens in this Province. It is an honour which has not only been conspicuously merited, but reflects credit in the highest degree upon the University itself.

Old Home Week is proving as great a success as ever. There is entertainment for every member of the family at the Provincial Exhibition and although the weather has been unsettled it has not interfered with the programme. "Col. Dan's luck" must still hold good although it is some years since he has been associated with the management of the big fair.

How Australia was finally freed from the plague of rabbits is told in the Toronto Globe and Mail by a staff member who had previously been on a Melbourne paper. The pests were introduced in 1820 by a landowner who thought they would provide good shooting. The land was devastated by the cottontail until 1951 when 90 per cent of the rabbit population died of mosquito-spread myxomatosis. The disease does not spread to other animals either by injection or contact. Ironically the disease was experimented with as early as 1926 but only in 1950 did anyone try spreading it by mosquitoes.

Herbert George Wells, English novelist and writer, died this date 1947. His health had much to do with his becoming an author. His early works were chiefly on scientific subjects, a trend which was altered after writing a sketch "On Staying At The Seaside" while convalescing. He then wrote "The Island of Dr. Moreau", which was first rejected, and "The Wonderful Visit". His first great success came with the serial "War of the Worlds". He also wrote on social problems and numerous histories, including "The Outline of History", an ambitious attempt to illustrate the continuity of history from the beginnings of life to the Treaty of Versailles. This and others were intended to prepare the popular mind for the World State.

Easily Misconstrued Remarks



The Poet's Corner

FROM THE BLESSING OF LETTERS

O Blessed Letters, that combine in one, All Ages past, and make one live with all; By you, we do conferre with who are gone, And the dead-living unto Council call; By you, th' unborn shall have communion Of what we feele, and what doth us befall; Soule of the World, Knowledge, without thee, What hath the Earth, that truly glorious is, Why should our Pride make such a stir to be; To be forgot? What good is like to this; To do worthy the writing, and to write Worthy the reading, and the worlds delight? —Samuel Daniel (1562.)

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

BEECHER AT THE DRILL SHED

"The Drill Shed was crowded last night; for who did not wish to see and hear the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher? Mayor Dawson occupied the chair and introduced the lecturer. Mr. Beecher said he proposed to speak as if addressing an audience of United States citizens—a fact he would thank his hearers to remember. The prophecy of De Toqueville, made fifty years ago, of the coming of democracy was now an established fact; and the change had in many cases altered the whole framework of government. The change was still going on, a change wrought by the hand of God, betokening man's elevation to a higher estate. "Gushing descriptions of Mr. Beecher's oratory led us to expect some straining after effect. But there was none of that in his address last evening. His effort seemed to be rather to keep down than to exhibit any feeling. In person plain, solid and substantial, his style partakes largely of the same qualities. Yet in the delivery of a profoundly philosophical discourse he, in some mysterious way, managed to keep under perfect control the feelings and enchain the attention of a well, not very philosophical audience; and to make clear to all his way of solving some of our most complicated problems of our modern civilization. Surely this was one of the greatest triumphs of oratory!" —The Examiner, Aug. 9, 1879.

The Age Old Story

The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand; that I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot; then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

HEAVY TRAFFIC

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—Automobiles registered in the first three months after April 1 numbered about 2,000 more than the total registration for last year. At the end of July the Newfoundland count was over 18,000 cars and almost 8,000 commercial vehicles.

Colorado was the leading state for gold production until 1910, when it was outstripped by California.

Notes By The Way

Researchers and shipping company executives, a Montreal report discloses, have looked into the future and glimpsed a picture of a busy port minus the smoke which belches nowadays from the stacks of lake and ocean freighters. Although this phase of the smoke-abatement program is still in its infancy, it doesn't take a clairvoyant to predict the creation of a new organization: The Society For The Preservation Of Smoketacks! On Freighters. —Ottawa Evening Citizen.

A man having a leisurely saunter in Sydney Tuesday evening after supper, was pleasantly impressed when he saw a woman with a brush painting lattice-work on her front porch a nice shade of green. He was mildly stirred some steps further when he glimpsed a woman in a flowing gown and a hat, though it was a few blocks further, to those of many an eastern community, when he came in full view of a woman high on a ladder, painting the shingled exterior of her house, making a deft workmanlike job of it too. The color chosen in this case also was green. All three busy women were wearing trousers becomingly. —Sydney Post-Record.

Regina, the capital of Saskatchewan, is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a city, and, though it is a few years less compared to those of many an eastern community, the event is an occasion in every sense of the word. The older generation of prairie folk remember when the prairie spaces were all but empty, and the rise and growth of a tiny settlement into a city remains an exciting event. Long before Regina was a city, however, it was a seat of government. It was there the old Northwest Council sat. It was there that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police had its headquarters, and it was from there that General Middleton set out for the Battle of Batoche in 1885. It was in its jail, too, also, that Louis Riel met his fate. Regina had not been Regina long in those days. The little wayside station on the C. P. R. was known as "Pile of Bones." Its citizens felt there was no future in so crude a nomenclature. They chose Regina, after the Great Queen, and the choice was good. —Montreal Star.

Windsor has been having a celebration of which other parts of Canada have heard little — a three-day observance of "Emancipation Day." Emancipation Day commemorates a law of 1834 which made slavery unlawful in the British Empire. There was no similar law in the United States until 1863. Thus it came about that hundreds of Negro slaves in the United States sought freedom in Canada, and the stories of the "underground railway," along which Negroes fled from slavery to the free soil of Ontario make a romantic chapter in the history of this continent. Many of these people crossed the border in the Windsor area and settled there, became useful and prosperous citizens. —Ottawa Journal.

The Canadian Board on Geographical Names, which is a branch of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, has been having another go at the origin of the name "Canada," for this country, but without casting much new light on an old and controversial question. The matter comes up now because an American periodical had advanced the theory that the word comes from the Spanish "aca nada," meaning "nothing here." The Geographical Names people, without any positive proof, are inclined to think a more reasonable explanation is found in Cartier's report of his second voyage of exploration to these shores. In that report he included a list of Iroquois words, among them being "Canada," meaning a village, a collection of tents, or an encampment. "Cartier's report," says the Board, "appears the best evidence produced on the subject, and it thinks the Iroquois origin of "Canada" may be accepted as correct. —Ottawa Journal.

A diver has brought to the surface a cobblestone from the bottom of the North Sea, and in so doing has revived the stories about the lost continent of Atlantis. Members of the expedition are claiming that this cobblestone and other objects discovered on the sea floor nearby are parts of the Atlantean city that Plato mentions. This seems like an airy speculation. Atlantis has a peculiar fascination for the human mind.

Perusal of dispatches from the prisoner exchange in Korea suggest the worst atrocities committed against United Nations personnel who were early in the war. And those who suffered most were the men captured during the ill-fated drive General Douglas MacArthur made up to the Yalu River toward the end of 1950.

That was after, it will be recalled, he promised to have the troops home by Christmas. But his ambition backfired in more than one way. Militarily, the United States troops suffered one of the most ignominious defeats ever encountered on a foreign field. A large proportion of them were taken prisoner. Those who escaped through the bitter cold weather suffered severe hardships.

In the larger sense, this sortie up to the Yalu brought in the Chinese in force and doubtless prolonged the war. Left to themselves, the North Koreans might have been prepared to quit long ago. But, supported by the Chinese, who bore the main brunt of the fighting for months past, they hung on. From a humanitarian viewpoint, many United States troops suffered and died on forced marches and in prison camps. They were taken prisoner in cruel weather, and even if the North Koreans had so waned that they had the transport facilities to handle them better. The North Koreans were tougher captives than the Chinese and prisoners taken by the Chinese seem to have been accorded somewhat easier treatment.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer THE AFTERMATH

It is a bit too early for anyone but a political expert to appraise intelligently the why and wherefore of the recent election. And it is more than likely that the experts themselves will be pondering these matters for some time to come. There are, however, a few things about the visible results that are fairly clear.

Chief among these I would put the obvious strength of the Liberal Party. Some commentators are already suggesting that the big Liberal majority is a tribute to Mr. St. Laurent's personal qualities rather than to the political record of the government. There may be some measure of truth in this view, for at no time in the campaign was it reported that any critic made any serious charge against the Prime Minister's administrative ability or integrity.

This no doubt had some effect on the political group (or any other group for that matter) that can be isolated for good or ill from its leader. And the fact that all members of the last Cabinet were re-elected is extra evidence that there was a widespread complaint about the Government's responsibility to the nation. I think that any fair-minded person will acknowledge that, regardless of his personal satisfaction or disappointment as the case may be.

There seems to have been almost unanimous agreement among independent forecasters that the Government would be returned with a small majority. Indeed there was more than a casual belief that the new Government would find itself in an overall minority position. Actually the official Opposition is very little stronger than it was all along and in some respects it may be weaker. As for the other anti-government groups, they fell short of general prophecy.

Those honest people who have feared for some time that Canada is fast becoming a One-Party nation are not likely to receive much comfort from view is that there is no justification for any alarm. It must be remembered that One-Party supremacy in Canada is not the same thing as One-Party domination in a dictatorship. There is just as much freedom of opposition as if government were being changed every two or three years, and that after all it counts in a democratic state. Not One-Party supremacy but No-Party opposition is what brings in a dictatorship.

So long as men and women are free to say "yes" or "no" to any government, the fact that they keep on saying "yes" is really of no consequence. There were plenty of serious thinkers (not all Republicans either) in the United States during the long years of

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