

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, FEB. 12, 1952

War And Diplomacy

In an age when war and diplomacy appear to be inextricably entwined it is increasingly difficult for anyone but the experts to define with any sense of clarity the alternatives open to the western world in the struggle with Soviet imperialism.

Until recently it was abundantly clear that rearmament was the indispensable "sine qua non" of a return to some semblance of security from aggression.

There are already those who hold firmly to the view that the only way out is a war to end war. Supporters of General MacArthur find themselves in this category.

What must be remembered is that rearmament has for its purpose not so much a war to end war as a restoration of the equilibrium of force.

Opinion on this point is still divided. British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, in an address delivered in January in New York, advocated what The Economist describes as a "step-by-step" policy of dealing with each separate issue in foreign policy on its merits.

Another school of thought with a characteristically Churchillian flavor argues that "high level talks", in which, presumably the British Prime Minister would sit down around the conference table with Premier Stalin and President Truman, offers the best solution.

What matters at the moment is not whether diplomatic policy calls for the "step-by-step" or the "high level" approach. The significant fact is that responsible statesmen such as Mr. Eden believe that diplomacy based on strength is capable of achieving results.

United Nations' Warning

Formidable among the problems created by rearmament in the Western world, notes an exchange, is that of avoiding a slump when defence contracts taper off.

With peace as its aim, rearmament is designed to stabilize the international political situation, and so to permit the return of much productive capacity to the making of consumer goods.

tended to avert.

To ensure a smooth transition from the defence program to civilian production, the U. N. report recommends planning for full employment. Alternately, Professor J. W. Angell of Cornell University and his colleagues of four other nationalities foresee a drift into "recession".

The greatest danger is that the United States, where production of consumer goods continues high, will have no volume of deferred demand sufficient to prevent a slump. It might drastically reduce its spending on imports, and unemployment would quickly spread through the Western world.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Everybody having a vote should make it a point of civic honour to use it in tomorrow's civic election.

The joint funeral service for King George in Trinity Church Friday is certain to attract an overwhelming congregation of mourners.

Once in two years citizens have the opportunity to elect their City Council. Everybody having a vote should poll it tomorrow.

Intending winter visitors to Florida are now almost weekly victims of airplane accidents. The immediate preventative would be to fly smaller passenger planes.

Alberta farmers won't have as many grasshoppers to bother them this year as in 1951. Effective control measures and unfavorable weather during last year are responsible for the decrease in grasshoppers.

Charles Robert Darwin, naturalist, was born this date 1809, grandson of Erasmus Darwin and Josiah Wedgwood. Interested in sport and nature study, he was invited to join in the cruise of H. M. S. Beagle as naturalist, the report of which was his first published work.

Turning the other cheek. Despite the strained relations between Egypt and Britain and the slaying of a Canadian trade commissioner in the Cairo riots, Canada and Egypt are still on speaking terms.

Legislation designed to help cut down the smuggling of untaxed U. S. cigarettes into Canada has been passed unanimously by the New York Senate. The bill would toughen penalties for transportation, use or selling of untaxed cigarettes.

That the Government went into its high tobacco tax with eyes open is revealed in a statement by Finance Minister Abbott in September 1950, when he said: "I am not proposing any changes in tobacco taxes, which are already very high."

With A Price Tag



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.

FEDERATION STATEMENT RE POTATO MARKETING

Sir,—The Potato Dealers' Association has sought, on several occasions recently, to justify their actions in opposing the operations of the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board and in order that farmers and others throughout the Province may be correctly informed therewith, it might be well to review the actual facts concerned with the formation of the Board and its activities since.

For years past farmers in this Province and throughout Canada have sought to obtain some measure of marketing control over the products they produce; their right to do so has been recognized by both Provincial and Dominion Governments and also by all the fair-minded citizens of this country who wish to see other classes of society enjoy an equal measure of economic freedom and security.

Over a century ago the people of this country sought, and after a long struggle obtained, a full measure of self Government. At that time their efforts were opposed by certain interests who believed—or at least said they believed—that ordinary people were incapable of governing themselves.

Nearly two years ago, farmers throughout Prince Edward Island voted almost unanimously, in favour of the early establishment of a Potato Marketing Board in this Province. It is worthy of note that a short time after this movement was started the Potato Dealers organized themselves into an Association—something they had never been very successful with in previous years.

On August 18th, 1950 Colonel G. Elliott, Full head of the Dealers' Association made the following statement as reported by the local press: "The only way to control the marketing of potatoes is by the setting up of a pool and a central selling agency. If the farmers want that they will have it."

In spite of the unrelenting opposition of a small group of dealers, the Potato Marketing Board has proven itself to be one of the best investments that Island farmers have ever made, and the farmers themselves have recorded their approval of its efforts on each and every occasion that they had the opportunity of expressing their considered judgment.

The Age-Old Story

Then Job answered the Lord, and said, I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

he could see no prospect of any improvement in marketing conditions, that artificial measures of any kind were useless for strengthening the potato market, that support prices would never be given again in any part of Canada barring war or other emergency conditions, and that even if support were made available it would not be of any help.

LONDON AND THE KING'S DEATH

Sir,—The shock of the King's death comes quietly to London, and although it is unexpected in one sense, the people had been deeply concerned about his health since the operation, and were therefore not altogether unprepared. People are restrained today, and greet each other solemnly. Parliament met and immediately adjourned, and all places of entertainment are closed while the city grieves over the loss of the King.

WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

Sir,—The trend towards responsibility of government for the public welfare has grown enormously on this continent in the last quarter century. When old age pensions were first suggested, we remember how preposterous the idea seemed to us.

We cannot say that we disapprove of this latter extension either, as the worker who has toiled and accumulated, as we believe, entitled to rest from his labors to some extent when he reached the allotted span. In addition we have baby bonuses, unemployment insurance, and certain sick benefits, all of which are our personal obligation — for what it is worth—when properly administered.

However there are some aspects of this spreading beneficence which seem objectionable. It has a tendency to anchor a government, however inept, in a harbor safe from all opposing elements. The recipients of all this paternal supplement are not unreasonably timid about changing parents. The new daddy might be more penurious. He might wish to get out of debt instead of living luxuriously, and letting the future take care of itself.

The Poet's Corner

QUATRAIN

Not unaccompanied fight you this good fight; Lords of invisible and invincible might, The poets all are with you evermore, Marching like morn upon the camps of night.

— Sir William Watson.

those who listened in to his Christmas broadcast. He had been brilliantly doctored, but his heart could no longer stand the strain and he died most peacefully in his sleep of a coronary thrombosis. It is hardly necessary to dwell on the King's service to his country, his great sense of duty, and anxiety for the welfare of the people at home and abroad together with the frightful strain he must have lived in during those war years when Britain was in such grave peril.

WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

We are being taxed arbitrarily, and despotically, in order that the floating vote, the idlers whom we support may continue to keep this growing menace in office. This drift towards a one party system seems to be worldwide, including so-called democracies. Fortunately the British people have shown us that it is possible to unseat even the safest government. It took impending financial disaster to do it however, and it yet remains to be seen if it was done in time.

Our provincial government as it now stands is as good as any that may succeed it so long as the present indiscriminate use of gratuities is to be continued. We wish to emphasize the adjective, as we definitely favor old age pensions, child bonuses, and unemployment insurance for those who cannot obtain work for which they are trained. We know of many who are receiving this money who would be glad to work if they could find work that they could do. They have our respect and sympathy, but we do object to work as hard as we find it necessary to do, in order that we may find the money to pay exorbitant taxes to support the man walking the roads with his hands in his pockets or smoking by his fireside, who has been offered work for which he is suited, and who uses some flimsy excuse to evade the opportunity while he can get money for nothing.

To all this add the innumerable host of civil servants necessary to wield this bulky bureaucracy, whose prosperity depends on its continuity, and we have an almost unbeatable combination; unbeatable until at last the real people, the workers who create the wealth, the farmers, the artisans, the prospectors, the miners, the teachers, the doctors, the nurses, the soldier who guards our shores and the many others who contribute, wake up to the fact

The Passing Scene

By Observer

HIS LATE MAJESTY

There seems to be but one subject to write about at this time, the death of His late Majesty, King George the sixth. I say "death" for that is the customary word, but I prefer to think of what has happened as a passing into life. Honour, courage, devotion, faith, hope, charity, are imperishable qualities. They do not die. They who possess them, as our late Monarch did in abundance are heirs of life eternal.

It is natural and understandable that the peoples of the British Commonwealth and Empire should grieve and mourn. While the political tie that keeps them together may seem weak, they do constitute a family which, in spite of many differences, is bound together by a cord concerning which political philosophers have often marvelled. Certainly, there has been nothing like it in all the political history of the world.

It has come about, one might say, almost without design. The thing that keeps us together is something that somehow transcends laws, treaties, and self interests. We cannot define it as a purely political institution, for it doesn't seem to be that. When we call it a sense of family unity we probably come as near as we can to a specific definition. And when the head of a family is taken, the family mourns.

In our present situation our mourning is tempered by another emotion just as strong. This is a feeling of thanksgiving for the life of a Sovereign to whom our own Prime Minister in his tribute referred as a "great King and a good man".

As a wearer of the Crown and an exemplar of its dignity, George the Sixth by the Grace of God, followed in every particular the very finest and noblest traditions of Royalty. In his constitutional prerogatives and responsibilities he served his generation well. For this he was revered and respected. But it was as a good man of flesh and blood that his peoples loved him.

No Prince ever assumed the cares of Kingship under more difficult circumstances. None ever yielded the sceptre in more troubled times. What influence for good he exercised in the ways and machinery of government will never be known but, like that of his illustrious father before him it is safe to say it was not inconsiderable. It may have been all the more salutary because by constitutional custom it could not become apparent.

Of all the tributes that have poured in from the official heads of world governments it was especially impressive in the one that came from the President of the United States. Whatever may be said about Mr. Truman—and different people say different things—he is without doubt a man of human and sympathetic understanding. I think we can rightly assume that what he said in his message came direct from his heart as well as from his office.

Moreover, the experience of my travels in the United States leads me to believe that in this case, at least, he spoke for the great majority of the American people. Wherever I have gone, East, West, North, and South I have come across people in all walks of life who seemed to find delight in abusing British Governments. But almost always they have spoken

that they are being mercilessly exploited. We are being taxed arbitrarily, and despotically, in order that the floating vote, the idlers whom we support may continue to keep this growing menace in office. This drift towards a one party system seems to be worldwide, including so-called democracies. Fortunately the British people have shown us that it is possible to unseat even the safest government. It took impending financial disaster to do it however, and it yet remains to be seen if it was done in time.

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The death of our beloved King has demonstrated as only such a great sorrow can, how unbreakable are the bonds of love that hold together this favored Commonwealth of Nations. Standing head and shoulders above the bickering politicians, the nationalists, the internationalists, the socialists in each of his dominions, this quiet dignified figure, our deeply loved Sovereign, outrides His benevolence, his spiritual stature, his qualities of heart and mind, and his humility in his exalted position were realized all over the world. From darkest Africa, from the countries behind the Iron Curtain, from Pole to Pole, came expressions of grief and deepest sorrow at his early demise. His was a steady influence in a world chaotic with fear, as resembled Abraham Lincoln in his Christlike character. He has bequeathed to humanity a pattern of life, in the home and in public worthy of emulation. He has taken with him that which the catastrophe of crashing dynasties, and the dissolution of an empire could not destroy. — the love of an innumerable host who are still proud to call themselves his loyal subjects.

I am, Sir, etc. C. C. PRATT St. Peter's, P.E.I.