

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9, 1952

The Land That Time Forgot

Almost unnoticed amid the clamour and strife of East and West a new nation has come into being in North Africa. Before long representatives of the sovereign Kingdom of Libya will be taking their places in the political conclaves of mankind.

Libya today is a poor land of about a million inhabitants scattered over a territory about as large as the province of British Columbia. What little statistical data regarding its resources is available records that it has 90,000 camels and only 70,000 cattle.

It could be otherwise. For the Libya of the past was an exotic and exciting place, which attracted the attention of Rome's empire builders no less than it did II Duce's fascist hordes.

A price ceiling on potatoes in the United States is probably a necessary sequel to the price support which American growers enjoyed last year.

U. N. aircraft are finding themselves outnumbered in air battles with the Reds. If Communist airfields could also be developed extensively under cover of a ceasefire the eventual cost in lives would probably be greater than any saved by agreeing to a too-hasty truce.

Saint John is now glorying in its establishment as an airport from and to which passengers and freight may be shipped all over the world.

Only science can make Libya live again. For sovereignty without resources is as arid and worthless as the burning sands of the Sahara.

Curiouser And Curiouser

In itself, a Reuters dispatch from Tehran is not surprising, although it shows Russia to be callously withholding promised and much needed sugar from Iran until Iran supplies 1,200 tons of raw cotton to the Soviet Union.

When, however, that information is linked with previous Russian claims to have become the world's premier cotton producer, and to the further information that the Soviet Union has been shipping cotton for sale in the United States, the situation takes on another aspect.

Probably the country with the least stable government is that of France where it is just announced the latest coalition has come to grief over the budget.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Interest in the forthcoming City civic elections is warming up. At least three business men have expressed their willingness to offer for election.

In Toronto, where so many people drive their own auto, the citizens are not finding the transportation strike so inconvenient as anticipated.

Money is the root of the current evil prevailing in Jerusalem, where the opposition in the Jewish Parliament violently protest against the Government seeking to compromise with West Germany for \$1,500,000,000 their war-claim of \$6,000,000,000.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky does not seem to like the Canadian representatives sent to the United Nations General Assembly. He has fallen foul in

succession of Mr. Pearson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Garson. It means, no doubt, he finds their arguments so effective he must resort to the old legal trick of abusing his opponent's attorney.

Electric power consumers are not enthusiastic about paying the rate increases made necessary by the increased cost of fuel, but they can be thankful, at least, that power failures have been eliminated apart from unavoidable accident.

Tommy Handley, British comedian, died this date 1949. As Itma ("It's that man again"), the man to whom everything happened, he typified the spirit of the British nation.

The P. E. I. Federation of Agriculture is to be congratulated on having as guest speaker Mr. Sydney Oram, President of the N. S. Federation of Labour.

Citizens of Charlottetown can congratulate Summerside on their new Federal building being ready to open Jan. 18, and also on the town spirit which enabled them to back the project instead of throwing obstacles in the way as seems to have happened here.

Canada is proving an exceptionally fine country in which to live these trying times in most other countries. Long may it continue so, notwithstanding the price we must pay in high taxation and high prices for what we buy and consume.

It seems somehow criminal to some people to change their minds. There is nothing wrong with telling people one thing today and something else tomorrow.

People with closed minds are prejudiced in favour of yesterday's thoughts. They resent having to question and re-examine their attitudes and ideas; still more do they resent it when others raise questions.

The old nursery rhyme of "Humpty Dumpty" best illustrates the present unfortunate financial status of the Mother Country. It has had "a great fall", and now all the King's Treasurers, and all the King's financial experts from over the Commonwealth are about to meet in London to try to restore the loss sustained.

The silver casket and scroll presented to Sir James Barrie when the freedom of Dumfries was conferred on him in 1924 have been returned to Dumfries by Major O. Myrseth, who bought them from a London bookseller.

When a man makes this surrender to truth, he is for the first time in his life free — free from superstition, free from prejudice and free from dogmatism. He finds himself with a strange new power, the power to conquer, handle and control facts. He can claim to be an educated man.

Those who are trying hard to think in the right way and to eliminate prejudice from their lives are likely to be impatient with those who lag behind them. Being tolerant means that we should not expect too much of other people. Our viewpoint will not always appear reasonable to others, and we will save ourselves many disappointments if we do not demand that others see things from our point of view.

In days gone by it was to the South of France that Royalty proceeded to benefit from sunshine and warmth in the stormy month of March and early April. This is not now practical for King George, who, with the Queen and Princess Margaret, will proceed to South Africa, where man thousands of Britons with lung trouble preceded him including Cecil Rhodes and Lord Randolph Churchill, Winston's father.

Old Charlottetown

From a despatch to Lieutenant Governor Dundas from the Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State, Downing Street, 15th October, 1864: "The state of the Militia in the different British North American Provinces having lately engaged my attention, I have observed with satisfaction that in Prince Edward Island a Volunteer movement has arisen which reflects much credit on the loyalty and spirit of the inhabitants.

"It appears that this enactment was passed simultaneously with the concession to the Legislature of Responsible Government, so that at the time when the inhabitants obtained exclusive power to manage their own affairs, they inaugurated their career of self-government by depriving their Militia of the opportunity of becoming an organized and efficient body.

"You will, I am sure, concur with me in the opinion that if, in time of peace, a community neglects those measures of precaution by which its independence against foreign aggression can be secured, its safety must be more than imperilled in time of war.

"I wish that you would confer with the members of your Council with the view of remedying a state of affairs, which respects the Militia, which has no parallel in British North America."

On Changing Your Mind

(Royal Bank Monthly Letter) It seems somehow criminal to some people to change their minds. There is nothing wrong with telling people one thing today and something else tomorrow.

It is a sign of our vitality to own that we have changed our opinion, indicating that we are wiser than we were. He is, indeed, a wise man who keeps his mind open so that he recognizes important changes.

People with closed minds are prejudiced in favour of yesterday's thoughts. They resent having to question and re-examine their attitudes and ideas; still more do they resent it when others raise questions.

The philosophic person recognizes that if a thing is true you must accept it no matter how incredible or unpalatable it may be. No real values are destroyed or impaired by learning the truth about them.

In Sir Henry Rider Haggard's fantastic story "She" truth was represented by the "golden" sister; by a statue of a woman, leaning forward with poised wings. Her arms were outstretched like those of some woman about to embrace one she dearly loved.

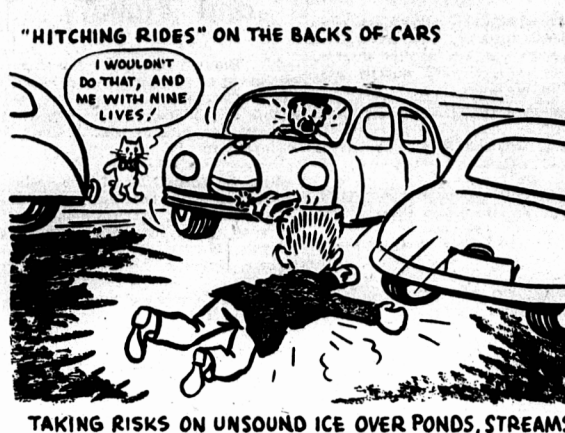
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Discretion in our thinking will lead us to discretion in our contacts with people. An Eastern legend says: "In making genius, the fairies left out one essential gift, the knowledge of when to stop."

There are few gifts that one person can give to another as rich as understanding. Understanding is a disposition to recognize sympathetically the beliefs of others without necessarily embracing them. But armchair philosophy is not what the world needs. The valu-

Not On Your Life!



TAKING RISKS ON UNSOUND ICE OVER PONDS, STREAMS



The Poet's Corner

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Whether men do laugh or weep, Whether they do wake or sleep, Whether they die young or old, Whether they feel heat or cold; There is underneath the sun Nothing in true earnest done.

All our pride is but a jest; None are worst and none are best; Grief and joy, and hope and fear, Play their passtime everywhere; Vain opinion all doth sway, And the world is but a play.

Powers above in clouds do sit, Mocking our poor selfish wit, That so lamely, with such state, Their high glory imitate: No ill can be felt but pain, All that happy men disdain.

—Thomas Campion (1567-1619).

Britain And A European Federal Organization

The Six-Power Paris Conference on the proposal for a "European Army" inside the framework of N.A.T.O. resulted, as one had expected, in a compromise. It is not even now a complete compromise. There is to be another meeting this month but there seems good ground for hoping that at this further meeting of the six Foreign Ministers sufficient agreement will be reached to enable the N.A.T.O. Council, meeting at Lisbon in February, to go ahead without further delay.

Compromise was and still is inevitable. Because both the experts who have been working throughout the year and the Ministers who met in Paris last month have had two quite separate and distinct objectives in mind.

The first, and in the minds of some of them the real objective, was an immediate and practical one. It was to devise a plan which would make it possible to add German troops to the N.A.T.O. forces in Western Europe, without recreating a separate and independent German Army under the control of a German General Staff and of the German government.

But for others, and especially for Dr. Adenauer and Signor de Gasperi, the real objective was a long-term one. The creation of a European Army was to be above all a first step, and a decisive step, towards the creation of a European political federation.

able thing is not to know what virtue is, but to do it. It is not necessary to know what bravery means, but to be brave; nor to give a dictionary meaning of tolerance, but to be tolerant. And if we are going to be tolerant, we might as well go the other step: tolerance is better than intolerance, but charity is better still.

This is all simple, practical, possible for everyone: and attractive, too. Removal of prejudice and the cultivation of tolerance mean much in deciding the fate of humanity and the happiness of individuals. They can bring beauty into our living.

The Age-Old Story

earnestly and passionately that the Assembly which had been envisaged in Paris as an organ of a new European defence system must "prepare the way towards a European federal or confederal political organisation."

The outcome has naturally been a compromise. All six governments — France, Germany, Italy and the three Benelux countries — are agreed that the immediate objective is to draft, sign and ratify a treaty which will provide the necessary framework for the creation of a "European Army" including German contingents. That done, the Assembly which will be part of this framework is to "study the creation of a European organisation of a federal or confederal character which would take the place when the time came of the organisation embodied in this treaty."

The British attitude on both these questions — and it is in no way affected by the change of government — is quite straightforward, through it is still apparently often misunderstood abroad.

Freyberg For Viceroy

We ask Ottawa to consider appointing Lord Freyberg, VC, to succeed Viscount Alexander as Governor-General of Canada. Within a few months Lord Freyberg will complete a term as Governor-General of New Zealand after an extension from five to six years. He is the first New Zealander to hold that office and he's made a brilliant success of it. He's so popular that the Auckland (N.Z.) Star says the government has "no such obvious and nationally acceptable New Zealander" to recommend as a replacement.

So the Star quotes at length from The Vancouver Sun's recent editorials urging members of the British Commonwealth to draw their Governors-General from other members rather than from Great Britain. Commending this idea to the New Zealand government, the Star points out that it "might result in the King being represented by a Canadian in Wellington, an Australian in Ottawa or a New Zealander in Canberra."

The Johannesburg Sunday Express gives its endorsement, urging South Africa to get into the exchange as a means of building Commonwealth solidarity. Freyberg would be a natural for

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Notes By The Way

A London despatch this week made some comparisons between the climates of Britain and Canada. But not as good as a comparison once made by the late George P. Graham, that delightful humorist who once played a comical leading role in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's cabinets and afterwards. "The main difference between our climates," Graham told them in London, "is that we keep ours inside." —Ottawa Journal.

Visitors to Westminster Hospital at Christmas were puzzled by small brooches worn by some of the nurses on their uniforms. Each brooch was the same, made of gold and studded with diamonds, with the initials of the King and Queen engraved on a small crown. These brooches were the Christmas presents the King had given to those nurses from the hospital who attended him during his illness. It was the King's wish they should be worn on their uniforms. "From A Window in Fleet Street." —Ottawa Journal.

Canada, Born in London in 1890, he was taken to New Zealand as an infant and grew up and was educated there as a dentist. He didn't like the profession so he checked it and went to Mexico in 23 to fight for Pancho Villa. When World War I broke out he worked his way to Britain and got a commission as lieutenant-commander in the Royal Naval Division. He became "the hero of the Dardanelles" by making a two-hour swim at Gallipoli in 1915 to light decoy fires to deceive the Turks about an intended landing. He won his VC, however, for gallantry in action at Beaufort in 1916. Back in Britain after the war, he tried twice to swim the Channel and got once within 600 yards of the opposite shore before war injuries made him quit.

In World War II New Zealand chose him to command its overseas forces. He maintained his reputation for always being in the thick of the battle — and he was wounded ten times doing it. Freyberg at 61 is tall, athletic and vigorous. He also possesses, in the Auckland Star's words, "all the dignity and ability" demanded by the vice-regal post.

We suggest that "Fighting Freyberg" would be an excellent choice for Canada when Viscount Alexander leaves Rideau Hall. We suggest that Ottawa find out if he'd be willing to come when New Zealand gives him his liberty.

Edmonton Journal says it's difficult to pick up a paper without learning that "intellectuals" are on the warpath somewhere, and it wonders just what is the meaning of the word. Well, as we understand it, the common or garden variety of "intellectual" is one who claims to know more than anybody else about things nobody else wants to know about and wouldn't understand if he did want to know about them, which he doesn't or account of being too busy trying to keep up with the cost of living. Or something like that. —Ottawa Citizen.

What happened to London's New Year whistles and sirens? It has ever been our custom here to welcome the New Year, not only by the ringing of church bells but by brave salutation of factory whistles and sirens. This year the New Year came virtually unheralded in this respect. The only sounds we heard were a few bells — not many — a very meagre tooting of automobile horns, and a few shotgun blasts. This is not in the true and honest tradition. We trust that next year we shall do better. —London Free Press.

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