

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, JAN. 21, 1954

Parliamentary Investigators

Canadians have not been favorably impressed by some of the methods used in the United States to uncover Communist activity.

A Social Credit member, John Blackmore, proposes to table a resolution suggesting the appointment of a committee to investigate: 1. Possible Communist espionage developing in Canadian industrial and other activities, and 2. Conceivable Communist infiltration "even to the extent of planting in sensitive positions in certain departments, agents desirous of influencing policy or of impairing executive effectiveness."

There can be no doubt that as long ago revealed the Communists have a number of undercover organizations working side by side in this country. They naturally strive to place their agents in key positions in government, industry and wherever they can be useful to the Communist cause.

The duty rests with the Government to take all necessary measures to guard against this danger and it may be assumed that Prime Minister St. Laurent is not neglecting that duty.

To the private citizen it would mean the possible publication of his name if it had ever been associated with an organization which also contained Communists or if he had backed any Communist-sponsored "front" organization.

Certainly all these things and more may properly be investigated. In dealing with such an enemy as Communism it is not safe to ignore any evidence of its activity.

A Robin's Flight

The robin, man's front lawn friend that delights in turning up in improbable places, now seems to have added another surprising feat to its achievements: flying the Atlantic.

No one can be absolutely sure how the American visitor got there. It could have hopped an easy ride on a ship. But, says the National Geographic Society, robins have been found in odd places before.

Circumstances lend support to the theory the Lundy robin had spanned the ocean under its own power. It is 2,800 miles from Newfoundland to Lundy by a down wind route that existed on the days the robin probably flew.

It is now up to English bird watchers whether to list officially the Lundy visitor as one of the avian immigrants that reach Britain in isolated cases. These have included the American pipit, yellow-billed and black-billed cuckoo, American duck-hawk, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, American widgeon, ring-necked duck, bufflehead, hooded merganser, American bittern, and many North American shorebirds.

has noted that American robins have been sighted in Cuba, Bermuda, the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea, Germany and Vienna. It does not contend that the birds flew to these places. There are records of two previous appearances in Britain: in western Kent in 1937 and on Dover beach in 1877.

Infant Training

Reporting to the American Society for the Advancement of Science at its annual meeting in Boston, Dr. Otto Weininger, of the University of Toronto, says he found that infant laboratory rats which were petted for a few minutes each day during their early babyhood grew up to be smarter and healthier rats than those of the same strain which were not petted.

Dr. Weininger, exercising a scientist's caution, observes only that he was pleased to note a relationship in his findings. But, notes the New York Times, others will see in this further confirmation of what they and the human race in general through the ages have sensed instinctively, and what human psychology has increasingly emphasized in recent years.

A comet will pass between the sun and the earth on January 22, according to the International Astronomic Union.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The proposal to limit trading between Canadian and American lake ports to vessels of Canadian and American registry may seem attractive to shipping interests in these countries and the inland nature of the system may give it some colour of right.

Parliament will be asked to permit the Government to buy up property in advance of the approval of building proposals in order to defeat land speculators.

The five-nation NATO anti-submarine exercise scheduled to begin next month off the United States east coast has been nicknamed "New Broom".

The prospect of post-war immigration soon reaching the million mark is both an effect and a cause of Canada's remarkable development. To the rest of the world this country's rapid expansion and prospects offer a great attraction.

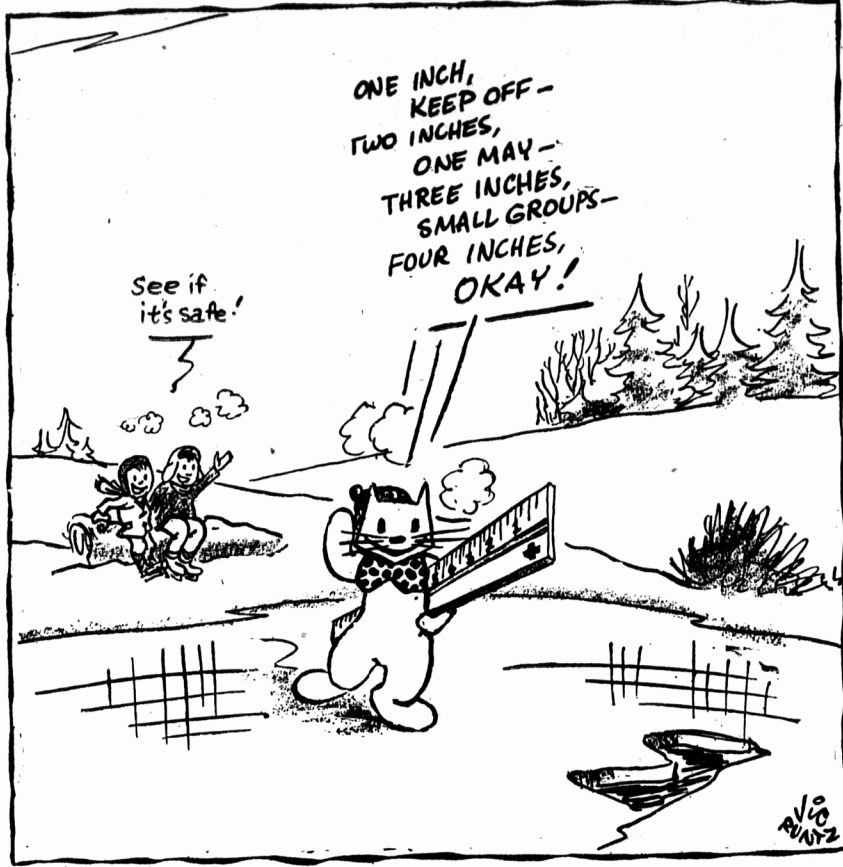
Henry Hallam, pioneer English historian, died this date 1859. He was one of the first outstanding English historians to go to original documents for his material.

An air crash is a spectacular and newsworthy occurrence and there is a danger that because of the great amount of flying done today with its unavoidable quota of accidents the public might get the impression that flying is unsafe.

Wherein lies the solution to this horror that is destroying our homes, our families and our children? Does it lie in the medical or psychological fields? Assuredly not.

The solution lies in the moral and spiritual sphere. It presents a clear-cut instance where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. A sense of human dignity and the observance of God's laws are the preventative.

Finding Out The 'Dry' Way



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.

WINTER ROADS

Sir,—Like a good many others, I think that once snow comes, cars and trucks ought to be laid up for the winter, and the snow plows kept in the government buildings.

After a storm, we see snow plows wending their way through drifts making dog paths that are hardly wide enough for one car to go through, thus spoiling the road for "Old Dobbin" and besides using good government money that could be spent to better advantage, building paved highways in the summer months.

One just has to take a glance at the Public Accounts to see what it costs to keep our roads open for motor traffic. I think government officials should wake up and get busy and declare roads closed after the first big storm such as we have experienced on Tuesday last.

I am, Sir, etc., KENSINGTON.

CURSE OF ALCOHOLISM

Sir,—Within the past decade it seems to have been rather thoroughly established in the public mind that alcoholism is a problem to be dealt with by the medical and psychological experts.

What a failure these two professions, even aided by the A.A., have chalked up. Dr. Lester Morrison, addressing the convention of the Gastro-Enterological Association, stated that the annual toll of chronic alcoholism has reached 400,000 confirmed cases in the U.S., 100,000 disabled victims and 50,000 deaths from diseases of the liver and other organs, induced by alcoholism.

Alcoholism is synonymous with misery, debauchery and corruption of the youth. It breaks up families, destroys the integrity of husbands, debases wives and mothers and perverts the children. Hardly a family in the country remains unlighted by the onslaught of the demon, alcohol.

No one deliberately becomes an alcoholic. Drunkenness is a sight to disgust even the most fastidious man or woman. No one wants to emulate the example of the bum, staggering and weaving his uncertain way along the street.

Wherein lies the solution to this horror that is destroying our homes, our families and our children? Does it lie in the medical or psychological fields? Assuredly not. It must be considered and treated in the same manner as any other sinful and vicious habit.

Notes By The Way

In 1933 man flew faster, climbed higher, and dived deeper than ever before, and called innumerable international conferences to find out where he was going.—Hamilton Spectator.

Industry now produces artificial fibres whose thickness is equal to one twenty-fifth of that of a human hair. The raw materials employed for that slender thread are sand and aluminum oxide.—Noir et Blanc, Paris.

Boston is leading the country in experiments with newly developed melting equipment for roads and sidewalks. The city is building a twenty-five million-dollar "aerial highway" which uses an elevated roadway to get through congested districts. Anticipating traffic trouble when cars try climbing the access ramps in wintertime, engineers ordered elaborate installations to melt snow and ice on the inclines. This de-icing project will be the largest of its kind in the world.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

There is nothing to stop the man who can convince others his obstinacy is just sheer determination.—Hamilton Spectator.

The proposed trans-Atlantic telephone cable will make communication with Europe quicker. Perhaps things were better in the old sailing-ship days when, by the time we learned the Europeans were going to have another war, they'd had it.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

The crossword puzzle has come a long way from the filler of 40 years ago. The crossword puzzle has retained its popularity while mah jong and miniature golf have waxed and waned. There are many reasons why this is so. The crossword puzzle is a mental stimulus, intellectual gymnastics and a pleasant way to fill time.

While sugar is still king in Puerto Rico, new industries have been attracted to the island in large numbers in recent years. In an effort to attract these industries and turn the economy of the country away from the one-crop sugar industry, the government imposes no income tax on business, and the local property taxes are very moderate.

"Died, on Monday the 15th February, at the head of Harris Bay, in this Island, at the patriarchal age of 110 years, Margaret Bourgeois, a native of Louisbourg, Cape Breton. She was present at both the sieges of that garrison, at the town; and during the second siege, one of her brothers, while in the act of removing her, for greater safety, to a place in the 'oul de saety', was shot dead at her feet. Upon this she fled to the woods, with an infant eleven months old, and herself in a state of pregnancy, where she remained six days, subsisting on yewberries, the only fruit then to be obtained.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. . . . Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

The Passing Scene

By Observer

ECLIPSE

As I begin this article the moon is entering the shadow of the earth or, to put it another way, the earth is passing between the sun and the moon.

Of course they have known all along the exact moment when this particular eclipse would begin, how it would proceed, and when it would end. The rest of us were prepared to take their calculations on trust. We knew everything would happen just as they said it would.

It is much too cold a night for one to give anything but a brief glance to the moon as she loses some of the customary "pale fire she snatches from the sun", but that does not prevent one's thoughts from wandering on and on. An eclipse, like every other phenomenon, speaks eloquently of the immensity of the universe in which the earth is as a speck of dust in the path of a sunbeam.

Yes, man has learned much from scientific research into the mysteries of the universe but, even now, there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in the most learned circles of science. The leading scientists of our day say that the little knowledge they have acquired thus far is just a token of that which remains hidden.

There comes to my mind here a lecture which I attended a few years ago. It was a lecture in astronomy from which I do not believe there is anything more fascinating in the entire scientific field. For an hour or more the distinguished lecturer led us from one wonder to another and concluded by saying this: "Let me one imagine for a moment that science is a finished science. Compared with what remains to be unveiled, our present knowledge is only a little above that which the little child can grasp when he looks up to the heavens and cries—

"Twinkle, twinkle, little star, How I wonder what you are Up above the world so high Like a diamond in the sky!"

It is the same story in every branch of science; the true scientist is a humble man.

Eclipses of sun and moon have occupied the attention of poets, philosophers, and historians in every age. In the pre-Christian era which, in a sense, might also be called the pre-science era, they were mysterious which somehow seemed to have a religious and mystic significance. A battle fought during an eclipse was sure to be in favour of the attacker. Defeated generals resorted to everything they could think of to postpone an engagement with the invaders until the eclipse had passed. There are instances on record where this fear proved to be well founded. Why? Who can say? Then, as now, there were many questions for which there were no answers.

Actually there is no such thing as a "total" eclipse of sun or moon. Tonight at the blackest moment in which the moon finds herself she will not be entirely obscured. Somehow, despite the earth's meddling tactics, she will manage to reflect a slight ray of the sun's light.

Perhaps the word is used too hastily in other ways as well. When the noted actor David Garrick died Samuel Johnson said: "His death eclipsed the galaxy of nations." Of course he was wrong. There has been a lot of galaxy among the nations since Garrick's time, and there has been much additional research into man's nature and abilities and weaknesses and strengths since Johnson himself "with extensive view surveyed mankind from China to Peru."

It some times is maintained (though not usually by the scientists themselves) that the age of science is eclipsing or already has eclipsed the age of faith. Faith, too, is probably an error. Faith, like all other values of ultimate worth, passes from time to time through that phase which a philosopher of another age called the "place of unawareness." It sees, but it is not aware of what it sees. Usually, the phase goes its way without having impaired the light and splendour which faith reflects. Just as the moon's eclipse will do tonight.

CAR HITS DEER

BRANTFORD, (CP)—A car driven by James Maurizius, Hamilton, hit a deer on Highway 40. The deer was killed but the occupants of the car escaped with a shaking. Damage to the car was \$500. The deer bounded from the roadside into the path of the car.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for various lawyers, accountants, and other professionals including J. A. McGuigan, MacPhee & Trainor, Dr. W. R. Carson, Gordon E. MacMillan, Frederic A. Large, A. Walthen Gaudet, J. Elmer Blanchard, J. S. Taylor, R.O., Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, Dr. K. A. MacEachern, McDonald, Currie & Co., and H. R. Doane & Company.