

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1952 Links With The Past

The generous offer of an Ontario visitor, Mr. V. B. King, to defray the cost of restoring the chairs used by the delegates at the pre-Confederation Conference in Charlottetown, or to contribute to a subscription fund for this purpose, is a reminder of the nation-wide interest and value attached to all our Confederation Chamber heirlooms.

Our whole Provincial Building is, of course, of great historic value. It is the second oldest legislative building in Canada and in many respects the most interesting. The very flagstones on the ground floor, trooved by the feet of rentpayers in the old days of absentee landlordism, are still in use, though in other respects modern governmental requirements have necessitated interior changes.

Uniform Legislation

The founders of this country obviously looked forward to the day when the principal legislation in force in each Province would be made uniform. It is provided, indeed, that judges need only be appointed from the bar of the particular Province until such uniformity of laws has been achieved.

This failure of machinery has been made good, in part, by the voluntary teamwork of the Provinces and the Dominion in setting up some thirty years ago the Conference of Commissioners on Uniformity of Laws throughout Canada.

Since 1918 the Commissioners have adopted thirty-four uniform statutes covering many business transactions, family relations, negligence and legal proceedings. Some 28 amendments have been agreed upon in respect of the Uniform Statutes.

Republican Platform

Party platforms do not always mean what they say, but the Republican Party's declaration on foreign policy acquires a new meaning with the election of General Eisenhower as its presidential candidate, who can be trusted to interpret it in a way which will enable him to continue the policies with which he has long been identified.

sturdy to resist Communist inroads. In the balanced consideration of our problems, we shall end neglect of the Far East which Stalin has long identified as the road to victory over the west. We shall make it clear that we have no intention to sacrifice the east to gain time for the west.

In terms of practical politics, this is construed as meaning that the Republicans will continue United States support of the Schuman Plan for a pooling of the iron, coal and steel resources of Western Europe. They will also support the establishment of a European army with contingents from Germany.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 6th Sunday after Trinity. The summer Olympics open in Helsinki today.

Farmers must have learned to go their own way without too much regard for short term conditions. After the record prices for potatoes last year it is found that there has been no appreciable increase in acreage planted in this Province.

The Federal Government still holds old seed grain liens dating between 1886 and 1926, for seed distributed in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, in the amount of \$4,973,625. Last year the government collected \$49,725 on this indebtedness, at a cost of \$15,000.

Any proposals for freight rate increases are certain to be unpopular but the Maritime and West will probably be relieved that the latest applies most of all to Ontario and Quebec. The low competitive rates in the central provinces always seemed to put an extra burden on the outlying areas.

An American naturalist recommends making salads of: plantain, lamb's quarter, sheep sorrel, leek, wild onion, soursdock and linden leaves, wild ginger, and the more usual dandelion leaves. The list has the merit of variety but most people will continue to settle for lettuce.

Thomas Cook, founder of the great firm of tourist agents, died this date 1892. He founded the "Children's Temperance Magazine" and conceived the idea of organizing parties for travelling, arranging what was probably the first railway excursion. Early achievements included conveying both General Gordon and the Gordon relief expedition to the Sudan.

The cost and difficulty of reproducing manuscripts in Braille will be greatly reduced, according to the London Times. The system is a modification of the usual procedure for duplicating by machine. The Braille characters are reproduced in stencil form and printed on paper with slow-drying ink. The papers are then coated with a powder that adheres to the raised dots and, on treatment with heat, the dots harden.

The Montreal Fire Department is learning the Nielsen method of artificial respiration, which is claimed to be twice as effective as the Schafer method. Known as the "arm lift-back pressure" method, the Nielsen technique has already been adopted by the armed forces. Its special advantage is that larger quantities of air are drawn into the lungs than in other methods.

More than 50,000 farmers from coast to coast co-operated with provincial departments of agriculture and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to make the annual livestock survey, as of December 1, 1951. This survey deals only with pigs, and it revealed a 20 per cent estimated increase in the hog population in Canada, as compared with December 1, 1950. It also indicated that farmers expected to have 22 per cent more sows farrow between December 1 and May 31, than during the year 1950-51. The survey shows total number of hogs on farms as 6,498,000 on December 1, which compares with the low point of 4,604,000 on December 1, 1948. Thus there would appear to have been more pigs on Canadian farms in December than in any December since 1944, and about the same number as in December, 1941, before the heavy increases during the war years.

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.

SEEING BEAUTY

Sir,—Our tourists often speak of the beauty they see in our island Province. They are quite welcome to it, but let us use all we can of it for ourselves. While preparing for morning service in church, my wife beckoned to me to look out the window. What was there to see? Just a green pasture field of two acres, a large tree in the centre of a deeper green, and a drowsy horse shading himself under it. I admitted that this would make a very nice picture.

I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MACKENZIE, Kensington, P.E.I.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ALBERTON DESIGNATED

How Alberton received its name is indicated in the following notice, dated June 27, 1862, and signed "Ben. Rogers, secretary," which appeared in Island newspapers at the time:

"MEETING AT CASCUMPEC.—Pursuant to notice, a meeting was held this evening in the Temperance Hall, for the purpose of giving a name to the locality usually called 'The Cross Roads,' Cascumpec, Robert Hodgson, Esq., was called to the chair, and the undersigned requested to act as secretary. The following resolution was adopted: Resolved—That the locality to be affected by the proposed change of name be bounded on the north by Mill River; on the south, by Mill River; on the west, by the centre of the Western Road, to meet both the above-mentioned rivers; and on the east, by the Harbour. Several names having been submitted to the meeting, choice was made of Alberton."

The Age-Old Story

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and creep every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

The Poet's Corner

THE JOYS OF THE ROAD

Now the joys of the road are chiefly these: A crimson touch on the hard-wood trees; A vagrant's morning wide and blue, In early fall, when the wind walks, too; A shadowy highway, cool and brown, Alluring, and enticing down From rippled water to dappled swamp; From purple glory to scarlet pomp; The outward eye, the quiet will, And the striding heart from hill to hill; The tempter apple over the fence; The cobweb bloom on the yellow quince; The palish asters along the wood— A light touch of the solitude; An open hand, an easy shoe, And a hope to make the day go through . . . By marsh and tide, by meadow and stream, A will-o'-the-wind, a light-o'-dream, The racy smell of the forest loam, When the stealthy, sad-heart leaves go home; The broad gold wake of the afternoon; The silent flock of the cold new moon; The hum of the hollow sea's release From the stormy tumult to starry peace; With only another league to wend; And two brown arms at the journey's end.

—Bliss Carman.

The Neighbors

By George Clark



It's Not Always An Accident

By Maurice Goldsmith (UNESCO)

Accidents are a major cause of death and permanent injury, especially to children, and of serious economic loss because of time lost from work, special medical attention, and reduced production. Exact statistics for the number of accidents in the home and in industry throughout the world are not available, but taking such industrialized countries as the United States and Germany, it is clear that death and incapacity dealt out on the roads, in the home and at work are on the increase. The same pattern is quite likely to appear in those countries now developing their own industries unless full advantage is taken of all that is now known about accident prevention.

During the last world war, the United States of America suffered about 295,000 killed or missing, and 652,000 wounded. During the same period, accidents in that country were responsible for 355,000 deaths and approximately 36,000,000 injuries. In the United Kingdom, each year accidents are responsible for 1,000 deaths and for 250,000 injuries in factories; for 5,000 deaths in the home; and for 3,000 deaths and 250,000 injuries on the roads.

In human terms—suffering, bereavement and personal loss—this is appalling. In productive terms, it is an enormous obstacle to the attainment of better living standards. What can we do about this? During the last century we have seen a steady increase in the average expectation of life, due to the progress of medical knowledge. In more recent years, whole areas formerly pest-ridden have become habitable; malaria has gone, for example, from regions where it formerly was unchallenged. Several infant diseases, which once caused helpless terror, are now almost unknown.

Medical science does not play the same role in relation to accidents. Modern remedies and surgery may do and work wonders once the accidents have occurred, but have thus far done little to prevent the mishaps from occurring. The knowledge and practice of safety rules and the enforcement of safety laws can do a great deal to limit accidents. In the home, for example, falls, burns and poisoning are the main type of accidents. And it is in the home that one half of the accidental deaths of children occur. Knowing this, accident prevention groups recommend many specific precautions—usually ones which are not particularly difficult to apply. In industry, there are all kinds of safety first rules that, conscientiously applied, would certainly reduce the number of accidents.

But having done all this, accidents will still occur. There is a personal element in accidents which seems at the moment to be outside the control of any group of people. Some people are "accident prone." That is, they tend to go on having accidents. It was just after the first world war that two researchers into industrial fatigue in Britain noticed, in the particular group of workers

they were studying, that accidents did not occur uniformly to all members of the group. Some of them had repeated accidents. In fact, 20 per cent of the workers have 80 per cent of the accidents of the whole group.

Why? Is there something basic in the personality of individual which predisposes him to have repeated accidents? In 1926, the idea of accident proneness of psychological origin was first put forward in Britain and in Germany. In studying a group of motor drivers, Farmer and Chambers found that those who failed in psychological tests had a higher accident rate than others. They also found that drivers who had a high number of accidents in their first year tended to continue at a high rate. In other words, that there seemed to be some stable personal characteristic in the liability to have accidents. Other research workers examined persons admitted to hospital with broken bones. They found that there were always some persons with a particular "accident prone" type of personality.

Dr. Flanders Dunbar, an American expert, found that 80 per cent of those who have had one serious accident tend to have others, and that they have a particular type of personality. Further, that people who have a series of minor accidents are more likely to have a serious one. These accident-prone persons are usually in good health, are not clumsy or dull, and are quick-minded, "men of action not deliberation." She found various types of accident-prone persons. The most usual is the happy-go-lucky, impulsive casual person. Looked at psychologically, they are hostile to authority, but not openly so. They take up fatalistic "don't care" attitudes to others. There is an emotional origin to the accidents that they tend to have. It is in these terms that the psychologist explains the exceptional case of the man who over a period of 20 years: was struck by lightning three times, was buried alive in a coal mine, lost an arm and an eye by being shot from the mouth of a cannon, fell off a 30-foot cliff, was thrown by a horse and dragged through a barbed-wire fence, fractured his skull in falling from a horse, was run over by a horse and cart and also by a car, and broke his hip in falling on the ice. "But this is silly!" exclaims the layman. "Do you argue that the man's emotional condition had anything to do with where the lightning struck? As for the other things, coal mines, cannon, cliffs, horses, barbed wire, automobiles and ice all have their hazards." "When a man is hit three times by lightning," replies the psychologist, "it is quite likely that the man's emotional condition had anything to do with it. He probably has the habit of leaning against tall trees. As for the other hazards, some people are well equipped to deal with them. Others are not. They are 'accident prone'."

It has been found that accident-prone children tend to be restless.

Notes By The Way

It is reported that C. B. C. technicians are busy at the Forum these days, in preparation for televising the wrestling shows that are put on there weekly. Shades of the Massey Report! This is a sad tumble from the high cultural ideas to which the C. B. C. denied television licences to private stations.—Montreal Gazette.

Speaking to the Olinda Citizenship Club, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Walter E. Harris clarified a point upon which too many still seem confused. We refer to those who regard new comers to Canada as "displaced persons." Of 680,000 who have come to Canada since the end of World War II, only 130,000 were in the "displaced persons" category. The other 550,000 have been ordinary immigrants, most of all of whom have come under their own auspices without any strings attached as to where they should locate or in what vocation. They are immigrants in exactly the same sense as our own ancestors were immigrants.—Windsor Star.

When Queen Elizabeth II was driving away from Newton Abbot in Devon, where she had been inspecting farm exhibits, several women mounted the running boards of her car and patted the Royal shoulder in token of their admiration. A few years ago this would have been the most horrid lese majesty. Imagine any rash refer to those who regard new comers to Canada as "displaced persons." Of 680,000 who have come to Canada since the end of World War II, only 130,000 were in the "displaced persons" category. The other 550,000 have been ordinary immigrants, most of all of whom have come under their own auspices without any strings attached

petty thieves, and truants. They seem to be expressing pent-up aggression and resentment. In one group of children, from 1 to 15 years old, with severe head injuries, it was found that over a third of them had had previous major accidents, and that most of them (83 per cent) had inadequate parents. As British pediatricist, Mr. Ronald MacKeith, says: "These children are like delinquents, but where one breaks laws, the other breaks bones."

There is no doubt that these tendencies exist in some people and are major causes of accidents. It is certain that we must continue to use our group methods of control by shielding dangerous machines, by making homes safer and by increasing safety on the roads. But much can be done by preventing accident-prone people from taking jobs in which they are particularly liable to have accidents and to injure others. Some years ago, the American National Research Council investigated the records of drivers employed by a number of public utility companies. They recommended that the 5 per cent with the highest number of accidents be transferred to other work. This resulted in a drop of 50 per cent in the accident rate for this group of drivers as a whole. In Britain, a similar transfer was made of drivers with the highest accident rate. Accidents were then reduced to one-fifth of what they had been. So far as children are concerned, repeated accidents mean that the whole environment of the child needs to be examined to find out what are the disturbing factors. An accident-prone child is a challenge to our performance as parents and teachers.

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