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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10, 1955

Important Meetings

Our Civic Centennial would not be complete without the annual meetings here next week of the Maritime Provinces Board of Trade, which has sparked so many progressive movements in the interests of Maritime business and industry. The present President of the organization is a Charlottetown business man, Mr. Alan Holman, and many of our leading citizens have held important positions on the executive. On this occasion the meetings are of particular importance, as they will discuss among other things, the future activities of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, and also the increasingly serious problem of traffic safety.

At the dinner meeting on Monday the Board will have a distinguished speaker in the person of the Hon. Walter E. Harris, Minister of Finance in the Dominion Government. A native of Kimberley, Ontario, Mr. Harris is a veteran of the Second World War and before his appointment to his present responsible portfolio served as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. He had previous experience as Parliamentary Assistant to the Secretary of State, and also to the Prime Minister, and is thus widely versed in government affairs. Mr. Harris' address on Monday will be of Canada-wide interest. It is not likely that he will reveal any budgetary secrets, but his comments on current financial problems, coming on the eve of the Dominion-Provincial conference on the tax rental agreements, should prove of great value.

U. S. Trade Policy

Just how "liberal" is the United States administration on the question of world trade? Does the slogan "Trade Not Aid", so frequently quoted by the President and his advisers, mean anything other than a formal recognition of a sound business theory? Is the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act—which, it will be recalled, the President managed to get renewed for another three-year period, after Congress had spent several months quarrelling about it—a real incentive to freer world trade, or is it nothing more than a bulky legal document of little or no practical importance? If one may judge from reports which continue to come in from various sources, these questions and others like them are being pondered with increasing irritation in widely separated countries.

One particularly irritating example of executive orders that seem to run counter to the spirit, if not the letter, of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act, is the one, recently issued, that puts a 50% tariff increase on British made bicycles. Last year these imports came to about 38% of all American sales. It was the result of much expensive advertising, sales promotion, and, above all, sturdy British workmanship, which is generally considered to lead the world in that particular article. It followed from American advice to British business men to concentrate on goods likely to win favour in the American market. Their reward for heeding that advice and building up a good business is a tariff increase that is intended to curb expansion of that market. The same thing happened a few months ago with respect to Swiss watch movements. As soon as they were being exported in a quantity that was helpful to the Swiss economy, the import tariff was increased 50%, thus taxing the product out of the American market.

Canada, too, has felt this discrepancy between theory and practice of liberal trade policy and will probably feel it more keenly in the future. A Canadian Cabinet Minister referred to this in a speech before an American audience just the other day. As he pointed out, what

the United States does in the matter of tariffs is its own business; but it would certainly make for better relations all round if some plan could be devised by which foreign business interests would know what to expect from one day to another. If American policy is to allow imports of certain goods at reasonable tariff rates only when there is an acute shortage of these goods in the United States, it should be so stated. If that be the case—and the signs do seem to point that way—what need is there of a Reciprocal Trade Agreement? It would seem that normal trade procedures could take care of it quite easily.

Big Day At Pownal

The Queens County Plowing Match at the MacRae farm at Pownal today should draw a large attendance from near and far. Organized five years ago following the success of the provincial competitions at Dundas, the County match has proved equally popular, and in fact both organizations have shown a fine spirit of co-operation in making their attractions of interest and educational value.

It is worth recalling that at the organization meeting of the Queens County Association on September 8, 1950, Mr. W. B. Creed, the original secretary of the Dundas Match, was present and offered many valuable suggestions. He recalled how the Dundas organization started in a small way, and drew upon his experience to suggest what might be done to make the first year of the Queens County contest a success. Both matches are now attended by farmers from all parts of the Province, and the competition is becoming keener every year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Whatever anyone may think about the French Government's determination to put down by force the revolt of the nationalists in their African colonies, it certainly cannot be said that ordinary French soldiers are at all mercenary. Their average pay amounts to about 6 cents a day.

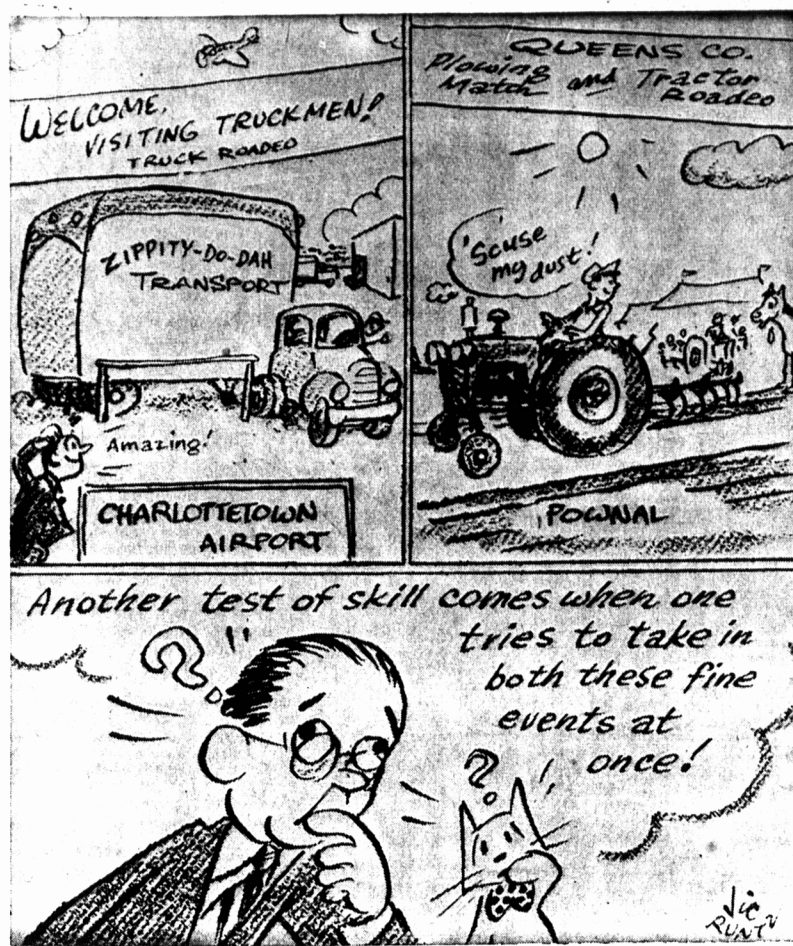
An official of the Canadian Mental Health Association is quoted as saying "there is no segregation of Negroes to speak of in this country only because there are very few Negroes." Little incidents which crop up from time to time would seem to suggest that his judgement may not be too far astray.

For the first time in its history, the State of New Hampshire has passed legislation authorizing a State sweepstake to be run on horse races. With tickets priced at \$5, it is hoped that the novel plan will bring in about \$2 million annually. Opponents of the measure are calling it "a sign of moral, political, and financial bankruptcy."

If American Mid-west farmers think they impressed the visiting Russians to any great extent with their modern agricultural methods, they should ponder this statement attributed to the leader of the visiting group: "I myself saw things in the United States so backward that I cannot even think back far enough to date them."

The National Dairy Council has reason to be concerned about the falling off in students majoring in dairying at agricultural colleges in Canada. It is from these students that the industry must obtain its future experts and specialists. There should be more government encouragement in promoting interest in these courses, by scholarships or otherwise.

The number of farm units in the United States has declined by more than a million since 1935. But in the past ten years, the average size per unit has increased from 175 to 220 acres, and the number of farmers owning their farms has increased from 61 to 73 per cent. About 2 million people, or 13.5 per cent of the total population of the United States, live on the nation's farms today. Since 1950, this farm population has been declining at the rate of three-quarters of a million per year, the greatest portion of this loss being registered in the 20-24 year age group. The proportion of population living on farms varies widely from state to state, from a high of 55 per cent in Mississippi, to a low of two per cent in Massachusetts.



Testing Skills Today

Arab-Israeli Conflict

Reuters Service, London

LONDON, (Reuters)—The Arab-Israeli conflict again threatening peace in the Middle East had its beginnings in the crumbling of Turkey's Ottoman empire during the First World War.

This was accompanied by the rise of Arab nationalism and the Zionist demand for a national Jewish home in British administered Palestine.

The subsequent 30 years failed to reconcile Arab and Zionist claims which clashed decisively in 1948 when the modern Jewish state of Israel was born in a one-year war.

Britain gave up its 26-year mandate May 14, 1948. Disregarding the United Nations decision to partition Palestine between Jews and Arabs, the Jews immediately proclaimed the state of Israel.

The new Israeli state won instant de facto recognition from the United States and three days later from the Soviet Union. Within 24 hours of the proclamation Arab armies marched in.

The Israelis, outnumbered and attacked from all sides, fought back. Eventually, they won themselves the home they had dreamed of for centuries.

DISPLACED PERSONS

For the modern lost tribes of Israel, the Jews displaced by Hitler's persecution, a new desert state which they promised to make blossom was established.

But in the process nearly 1,000,000 Palestine Arabs were uprooted. They were to create one of the biggest and most poignant refugee problems of modern times.

The Arab states, stung by defeat, swore revenge. Armistice agreements were signed by July, 1949 through United Nations mediation between Israel and the four Arab states who share common frontiers with her—Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. They left an uneasy peace.

The Arab nations refused to recognize the existence of Israel and the armistices have never been translated into real peace. During the last six years border incidents have brought death to hundreds and plagued the strategic and oil-rich Middle East with bitterness, frustration and fear.

But this is only a part of the modern tragedy of the Middle East—on whose burning desert sands, hiding incalculable oil wealth, live millions of the world's poorest people.

HOLY WAR FEARED

In the Moslem lands of the region, the cry of Jehu holy war echoes, causing the gravest concern to the Western powers for whom the strategic and oil value of the area is inestimable in their struggle to contain international communism.

Britain, France and the United States know that the political and economic convulsions that are transforming the lives of the some 20,000,000 Arabs reverberate throughout the rest of the Moslem world, from Turkey to Indonesia.

However, despite the extreme poverty that scars the Arab world, communism has made no headway. Throughout the Middle East, the Communist movement is outlawed.

But in terms of military defence against the Communist bloc, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the anti-French movements in North Africa are major obstacles

in the way of wholehearted Arab co-operation with the West.

Russia's wooing of the Arab states, by supporting them in recent United Nations discussions now has led to a Moscow offer of arms to Cairo.

Graveyard Of The Atlantic

By Stewart MacLeod, Canadian Press, Halifax

The bleak, sandy face of Sable Island, battered and tossed by tides and waves, is being studied by a research professor who is recording its physical changes.

The shifting sands wash around the coast of the "graveyard of the Atlantic" in fierce tides, piling up around natural breakwaters and sliding away from open beaches.

Now, for the first time, the island is getting a scientific study.

Prof. H. L. Cameron of the Nova Scotia research foundation has just completed an aerial photographic survey of the island, 190 miles off Nova Scotia. This will be compared with a similar survey he made three years ago. The comparison will show exactly what has happened to the face of the island during the three years.

OCEAN TRAP

The dangerous sands have always been mysterious. Since records were first made, more than 500 ships and 10,000 men have been swallowed up in Sable. Some ships have been known to disappear in two days. Only eight were ever recovered.

The 26 people who live on the lonely island—all of them transport department employees and dependents—occupy a small cluster of houses away from the crashing waves and tentacle-like sandbars. But when high winds sweep across the 24-mile-long island piles of sand drift up like snow. Some houses have had to be moved because of sand banks and ground movements, and one lighthouse has been shifted five times since 1873.

The sand washing off one side of the island, and piling up on the other is said to be moving Sable at the rate of one-eighth of a mile every year. The long finger of land is less than a mile wide for its entire length.

HEAVED FROM SANDS

After heavy storms, pieces of old wrecked ships are heaved from the sands that trapped them. Rotting timbers and masts, encased in the sand for centuries, are still being freed. Most of these pieces are tacked on the walls of an

old barn. Name-plates of dozens of ships hang in the building.

The residents who operate a weather station and radio posts spend much of their spare time hiking around Sable's hills and hollows. A herd of wild ponies, descendants of animals that came to the island more than 200 years ago, are other residents. Nobody knows for sure how these animals got there, but historians say they were either victims of a shipwreck or put there for use by shipwrecked sailors. There is also a flock of 500 sheep.

Most employees on the island are sent there for a one-year period and usually come home when their time is up. There have been several cases where they stayed out for another term, and a few other occasions when the period wasn't fulfilled. One man got so disgusted three years ago that he jumped in a dory and began rowing to Nova Scotia. He was picked up by a passing trawler and got to Halifax without difficulty.

UNCERTAIN COOKS

LONDON, (CP)—A new ham and egg restaurant provides indigestion tablets free.

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. HOW TO TELL WHICH EYE IS DOING THE WORK

Many of you at one time or another probably have jokingly called on one of your friends to "use your good eye." This might have been occasioned by his missing the target in a shooting gallery, at an archery range or at some other sport.

Actually, he probably wasn't using his "good" eye.

Most of us have a dominant eye, which sights or fixes on an object seen in binocular vision. Your dominant eye does the main job in sighting for photography, shooting archery and other instances where you have to line up an object.

Like to find out which is your dominant eye?

It's easy. Just cut a hole one inch in diameter in the center of a sheet of paper six inches square. Use a Pebble.

Take the paper in your right hand and hold it about 14 inches in front of your nose. Now take a pebble between the thumb and hold it about a foot beyond the paper.

Using both eyes, look through the hole at the pebble. Without moving the paper, close your left eye. If you can see the pebble, you are right-eyed.

If you can't see it, close your right eye and you'll find it is your left eye that fixes the pebble.

You can't see the pebble through the hole with both eyes at the same time.

These little home tests, suggested by the Better Vision Institute will, I think, help you understand a little more about your vision.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. C. W.: I have white patches on my arms and neck. What causes this and is there any treatment for this condition?

Answer: The exact cause for leucoderma or vitiligo is not known but too much sunlight may be partly responsible. Heredity is thought to be a factor by some investigators.

Certain drugs have been given internally, such as extracts of the thyroid and suprarenal glands. Applying walnut juice to the white patches is a good method of disguising them or the pigment around the white patches may be bleached out with a bleaching solution.

You should consult your doctor concerning treatment.

SWING ON THE PORCH

Serenely again, having come back to its view

Of porch, and garden gate, and field beyond,

The porch swing swings to and fro and fro and to

Easily again. It has resumed its bond

With greening earth and waits upon the sun

To warm it, for the rose to bloom, the man to stir,

To stop at it, the little child to run and climb on it, the woman with the pan

Of peas to sit and shell them. That day will be

The climactic one. It will be kind to book

And glass, to humming bird and shady tree,

But now it is content to swing and look...

Empty, it swings, by no foot disciplined, Renewing its acquaintance with the wind.

—Helen Harrington in the Christian Science Monitor.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Why should a public man not become cynical, knowing as he does that his services will be taken for granted, and his faults magnified out of all proportion? Why would he not be cynical, knowing how many people are jealous of his success in public life, and the power that it has brought him? Why would he not be cynical, knowing how ready the people he serves are to tear him down and belittle him? —Peterborough Examiner.

A Bangkok school official considers that the traditional wailing of his people is old-fashioned and wants to substitute the western "handshake." The educationalist could not have run into very many of the wide varieties of handshakes that prevail; the clammy, the over-heated, the listless and flabby, and the bone-cracker. If he had he would not be so enthusiastic about abandoning the wail system of pressing ones palm's together. —Moncton Transcript

Most Western experts believe that Soviet Russia is overpopulated for its arable area. The country suffers almost everywhere from inadequate rainfall, and without the most careful sort of conservation farming methods the plowing up of the vast grasslands of the south-eastern area could be extremely dangerous. A beginning of a very grandiose reforestation scheme was made in 1950, but is believed to have petered out. A vast network of farm ponds and water storage facilities, as well as summerfallowing and irrigation, would be necessary to maintain Russia's food production. A serious recognition of the weakness of Soviet farm production is undoubtedly behind the new policy of study and investigation of Western methods. Canada has much to teach, and we are glad to do so. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

The state of Oregon is the latest jurisdiction to take steps to curb nuisance damage suits against newspapers arising from inadvertent errors in reporting. The bill curbing suits of this sort was recently signed by Governor Patterson. Newspapers of course cannot expect to escape liability where a misstatement is intentional, nor do they seek to escape liability for actual damage incident to error. But they have asked, and have now obtained in Oregon, protection from excessive penalties for innocent and unintentional mistakes; and we infer, protection against the numerous libel suits for excessive damages which are launched by publicity-seeking personages. —Nanaimo Free Press

During the recent hot spell of motorist who made the trip from Montreal to Quebec reported a sign on a store in Three Rivers: "Ice cold water—10 cents a glass." Happily this practice is not too prevalent, but even this sign must make the friendliest of American visitors extremely cynical — especially when he knows that in his own country, there are plenty of sources of good, cold drinking water available free to the public. —Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

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Arab-Israeli Conflict

Reuters Service, London

LONDON, (Reuters)—The Arab-Israeli conflict again threatening peace in the Middle East had its beginnings in the crumbling of Turkey's Ottoman empire during the First World War.

The Age Old Story

As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

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