

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, SEPT. 1, 1951

Labour Day

Monday's holiday anniversary was established in Canada in 1894 through the efforts of Alexander W. Wright, a woolen mill worker of Markham, Ontario, who prevailed upon Prime Minister Sir John Thompson to introduce the necessary legislation in Parliament.

In this Province the Laborers' Protective Union, formed in Charlottetown in 1901, has been active at all times in furthering the interests of the working man, and the sound and moderate policies it has pursued have been noted appreciatively by many of our Government members and legislators.

The Union can also point with pride to the magnificent record of its members in the armed services of the country during two world wars. In periods of unemployment they have worked hand in hand with our civic officials in alleviating the hardships of those who were on relief.

The Doctors' Dilemma

The threatened resignation of twenty thousand doctors from socialist Britain's national health scheme has forced the United Kingdom Government to agree that something will have to be done about working conditions of members of the medical profession.

Arbitration of physicians' pay claims by an independent third party, to which the Ministry of Health has now agreed, will probably provide only temporary relief to the tension which marks the relationship between the doctors and the Government under the national health plan.

Socialist Britain's experiment in state medicine is slowly disintegrating. The Government's decision to give way in the face of the doctors' demands is cogent evidence that even the Government itself recognizes that the scheme is unworkable.

Saskatchewan River Project

Since Canadian taxpayers will have to foot the bill, the Federal Government is acting prudently in seeking an opinion from independent experts as to whether it should go ahead with the proposed South Saskatchewan River development in central Saskatchewan.

The Prime Minister has announced that a three-man commission will enquire into the South Saskatchewan scheme and express an opinion "as to whether the economic and social returns to the Canadian people and the investment... would be com-

mensurate with the cost thereof"; and as to whether this plan represents "the most profitable and desirable use which could be made of the physical resources involved."

A report tabled in Parliament last fall was fairly definite as to how the physical problems were to be met, but it was much less satisfactory in assessing economic advantages to be expected.

As matters stand, unless the newly appointed commission is able to digest quickly the mass of data already available to it, and fill in whatever gaps may exist; yet another year will be lost in beginning actual construction in the event of a favorable report.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Yesterday the last of a rainy August.

Today, the beginning of Fall.

Tomorrow, the 15th Sunday after Trinity.

Monday, Labour Day—a public holiday.

By imperial order-in-council this date 1880 Canada was extended to include all the North American continent north of United States territory, with the exception of Alaska and Labrador.

Labour Day is upon us once more, the last of the public holidays, except harvest thanksgiving. It is satisfactory to learn that industry has been busy during the past year, and that there are comparatively few unemployed in our midst.

Economic prospects in Canada are still for continuance of business activity, with a temporary plateau of stabilization, until Government spending for rearmament, old age pensions and the like reinvigorates the inflationary boom.

We have good reason to pat ourselves on the back. An Edinburgh, Scotland, psychologist, Dr. J. Maxwell, says recent tests show that children born in the country have a higher rate of intelligence than those born in the big cities.

The two Winnipeg girls—Miss Nancy Halford and Arielin Zurick—are home after visiting Britain, the Continent, North Africa and Norway on \$300, hitch-hiking most of the way, and tramping 160 miles over the Pyrenees.

Pride of ancestry is to be commended, and Scots have it in abundance. Canadians in Edinburgh of the Festival or the Gathering of the Clans inundated the Scot's Ancestry Research Society with "ancestral" enquiries.

This is where some British money goes. Speaking in the U. K. House of Commons recently, Colonial Under Secretary Thomas Cook stated that the total sum given to Colonial dependencies by the British Government between 1920-1945 was approximately £70,118,000.

A Reuters bulletin from Ilford, England, takes the trouble to tell us that the Vicar of Ilford has complained that whenever he tries to give his seat in a crowded train to a young lady, all he gets for his trouble is a cold stare.

Usually Mistaken For The Starting Gun



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.

SYMPTOMS OF SICKNESS

Sir—There is a disease, widespread in this Province and not easily recognized by the subject, not even by doctors. In fact both doctors and hospitals consider it beyond the scope of their profession; but it is infectious and more dangerous than cancer.

For example, cancer begins without warning, and involves years, unnoted, and involves vital organs before the subject is aware of the danger. This spiritual disease has this same stealthy character.

The symptoms of this disease are cause for alarm and action. Let me give you just two illustrations. One is the desecration of the Sabbath Day.

The Sabbath Day, the Sabbath is a divine institution, ordered for man's highest welfare. The existence of the Church depends upon the way it is respected.

Another symptom is our toleration of the liquor traffic. We blame the drinkers too much. Drink is here and our Government invites people to drink and the people who elect the Government are largely professing Christians.

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Why The Teheran Talks Broke Down

By W. N. Ewer

The breakdown of the Teheran negotiations is deplorable. The consequences may be more than deplorable. But, looking back, it seems to have been inevitable.

There were — granting the principle of nationalisation — three distinct problems which had to be solved in co-operation. First, the problem of how to run the oil industry as a nationalised industry.

The first of the three was fundamental. Unless the industry could be run efficiently, there would be no products to market. And unless there were products to be marketed, the questions of what share should go to the Persian Government, what to the Anglo-Iranian Company, what to the company by way of compensation, were less than academic.

That is why at the end, in a last effort to reach an agreement, Mr. Stokes dropped his eight point proposal, which had covered the whole field, and produced one, single proposal, dealing only with the organization of the industry.

But the cooperation of the British staff is essential. They cannot be replaced either by Persians or by men of any other nationality. There are no other skilled technicians who are available to do the job.

Therefore, the first essential in led to make this "find" by the Holy Spirit working through Rev. Elmer Crockett, an Elmsdale boy, who has been laboring in Minnesota, U.S.A. for some years, with unusual success in his chosen field of evangelism.

Speaking of this wonderful possession, it differs from earthly gold, in that you, at once begin giving it away. If you do not, it will turn to dross in your pockets. And also in this, that you need to keep on digging for more hidden treasure, as long as your earthly life lasts.

It can be compared to warfare — this Christian life, because the holder of "faith in God", which I am calling gold, is daily challenged to mortal combat by the arch enemy, even the Devil. Our Divine Captain was tempted by him. But our Lord overcame him with the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God.

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The Age-Old Story

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

any arrangement must be that it should be one which the existing staff would be prepared to accept. And they had made it very clear that they would only be prepared to go on working under some system which would not only guarantee them reasonable salaries and conditions of work and living, but which would be efficient.

That was rejected by the Persian government. Mr. Stokes tried again. He went to the very limits of possibility. He proposed that there should be no separate organization but that running of the industry should be in the hands of the directors of the new National Iranian Oil Company, provided that the immediate management should remain for the present in the hands of a competent British manager.

That had at the end been the only issue. It has nothing to do with profits or discounts or compensation. It has been simply whether the Persian government would agree to some form of management, within the framework of nationalisation, under which the present technical and administrative staff would agree to work.

There would have been no point or purpose in Mr. Stokes or the U. K. government agreeing to anything else. For nothing else would be workable. All talk of "national rights" of the capitalist exploitation" and the rest of it is simply irrelevant. The whole problem has boiled down to the quite simple

(Continued on Page 5)

cheerful supper, the family prayer and so forth. Yes, we like to meet the old friend, and make new ones, take notice how this layman or that is improving in style and showing stronger faith and courage; all with the same idea, each wishing to give of his best to help others. King David in the 23rd Psalm spoke of his cup being so full that it ran over.

A meeting of this kind is made more interesting by having a few from sister denominations such as Captain Hardy of the S.A., a veteran of the Cross, as well as our Baptist brother, Rev. Elmer Crockett. Mr. Crockett is to give a week's labor in each of three centres — Montrose, Elmsdale and Bloomfield. He does not depend on his own might or power, "but by my spirit", according to promise. "The God of Elijah is not dead." All who believe that our God is a God of love and waiting for the prodigal will sincerely pray. This movement is not as much "seeking of men and women to find God, as it is God striving to get into our hearts."

Notes By The Way

Those Mennonites who left Canada, because of their fear of conscription and dislike of our education system, have had a terribly costly lesson. They never did get to their destination in the Honduras, being beset by illness and troubles securing entry, and straggled back to Canada. They brought with them a dread tropical dysentery, resulting in serious illness which caused several deaths and widespread quarantine in a Mennonite colony in Saskatchewan.

The distinction of being the oldest trading vessel in Britain is at present held by the motor barge "Safety", of Gloucester, which was built at Stourport in 1838, as Ministry of Transport registers show. She is a wooden craft of 79 tons, and was originally a ketch of the type once well known in the West Country as trows.

A number of Southern Congressmen went to the Secretary of Agriculture to complain that they had cotton running out their ears, and would he please do something to bolster cotton prices? Well, the secretary thought it over and remembered that we have a program administered by the Munitions Board to stockpile critical materials so that we won't run short of them in the event of war or other catastrophe.

What appears to have been the first serious fire following the reorganization of the City Fire Department in 1877 occurred on October 28 of that year. It was discovered in a trunk factory owned and covered in a trunk factory owned by Charles Full, on Richmond Street, in the rear of Philip Coyle's dwelling house.

A sketch by Field Marshal Rommel showing the disposition of the German Afrika Corps before the battle in May-June, 1942 which led to his advance on El Alamein has been presented to the 11th Cavalry Regiment, FCA (Ireland's Home

The newspapers noted that of the total \$3,000 loss sustained in the fire, only \$600 was covered by insurance on Mr. Campbell's property. The Fire Department's valuable hose was injured by careless minor mishap is recorded: "The party that finds the green rubber bucket belonging to the Hook and Ladder Company, will please leave it at the Police Station."

Two days later, on Oct. 28 another serious fire occurred, destroying a venerable pile of buildings on the corner of Queen and Richmond Streets. On this occasion the Fire Bell was badly cracked, after being violently rung for about three-quarters of an hour during the fire. This bell, known as "Big Donald" (after Fire Chief Donald MacKinnon) was located in the tower of the old wooden Market House. It was later shipped back to Boston to be recast and returned somewhat smaller in size; the foundry retained, it is said, sufficient metal to pay for the job

Take sides: upwind or down With the swift wind flowing; There is no shearing flight With the gale gusts blowing Across this chaotic night. To a roost worth knowing.

Tailwind or headwind now... With the whole flock flying. Swept down the common course Or with the eagle trying As a valiant skyling. The wind; and without remorse.

Take sides in these windy times With the cyclone blowing; There is no hanging still As the gull glides, slowing... Hurtle where hurricanes will. Or alone fight knowing The wind's coming and the wind's going.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FIRE FIGHTING IN 1877

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