

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co.

President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, DEC. 16, 1952

A Sister Dominion

The Union of South Africa which celebrates a somewhat confused holiday today is in many respects similarly situated to this country but in other and important aspects very different.

It is scarcely surprising that Dr. Malan's Nationalist Government has not taken kindly to attempts to have the United Nations take an interest in matters—chiefly the treatment of the black and coloured population—which they consider to be purely domestic issues and outside the scope of the United Nations charter.

Canada's attitude is generally that there is no limit to what may be talked about in the United Nations General Assembly, that it is a sort of town meeting of the world, but that it is highly doubtful whether the Charter permits the U. N. to take action of any kind in such circumstances.

Territorial Waters

A question which has occasioned a great deal of controversy between Canada and other countries, and is important locally in connection with such issues as that of dragger fishing off Prince Edward Island, is being threshed out between the United Kingdom and Iceland.

The "three-mile-limit"—supposedly derived from the maximum range of Napoleonic cannon—has been generally, but by no means universally, accepted.

A further question concerns the baseline from which the limit should be measured. Shall it be, as the British argued at the Hague court, from a low-water mark? Or, as the Norwegians argued, from a line drawn from headland to headland along the coast?

The concept of territorial waters has in the past been applied to navigation of and fishing in those waters. But modern technical developments have posed still another question—that of the ownership of "off-shore" mineral deposits, including oil, under the sea-bed.

Another issue is the Icelandic argument that the prohibition of trawling (as distinct from surface fishing) in in-shore areas is essential in the general interest in order to preserve the breeding grounds.

been recognized not only in Norway and Iceland, but off the coasts of Scotland and Ireland as well.

Six years ago an international conference met in London to discuss the problem of over-fishing in the North Sea and in the Northeast Atlantic. It drew up a convention, but there has been long delay in ratification on the part of some of the signatory states.

Same Old Story

With the Throne Speech debate dragging on interminably in Parliament, the Ottawa Journal notes that every now and then demands are heard that a halt be called to time-wasting procedure.

"It is not enough to say that the present session is a pre-election session, making it all but compulsory to have the House a hustings," adds the Journal. "This flood of repetitious talk comes every session. That is what makes it so obnoxious, such a peril to Parliament. If it's electioneering our MP's have been engaging in these past weeks, if it be the constituencies they are thinking of, then our advice to them would be to finish with Parliament as soon as possible and get out into the constituencies. It's by hard work in the constituencies, not by speeches in Parliament, that elections are won."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dingaan's Day—public holiday in Union of South Africa and Swaziland.

Once more "new Prince Edward Islanders" have been entertained at a Christmas party under the direction of the Women's Citizenship Council.

The report that up to two months ago there were more than 2,000,000 casualties amongst the forces of both sides in the Korean conflict is a reminder of the cost of that struggle.

There will be considerable regret in hockey circles at the resignation because of pressure of business of Mr. Gilbert A. Gaudet, Q.C., from the position of secretary-treasurer of the Islanders.

Having forcibly expropriated its oil fields which were developed by Britain, Iran now seems to be indignant that another country interested in the hunt for oil, the United States, is not willing to encourage the sale of oil from the seized wells.

William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canadian Liberal statesman, was born this date 1874 at Berlin (now Kitchener), Ontario. He studied political economy and was diverted from academic life by an appointment as deputy minister of labour and editor of the "Labour Gazette" in the newly organized department.

The 'Have' And 'Have Nots'



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.

POTATO PRICES

Sir.—Newspaper information regarding prices being paid at Tignish for potatoes from time to time is incorrect and misleading. The latest error gave Sebago seed price as \$2.85 a bag while the price is actually \$3.00. It is also maintained that no Green Mountain is moving there. Just another error, as Green Mountain seed is coming in at \$3.00 a bag at car or warehouse. St. Louis loads large quantities of potatoes. Why no price given for it? I am, Sir, etc., R. SHAWNEE St. Louis, Dec. 12.

HOW NOT TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Sir.—The 25th of December is an arbitrary date. It corresponds to the heathen feast, celebrated at the winter solstice, the day of the return of the sun northward and in joy of the prospect of the renewal of life in the spring, Christmas has come to be celebrated in every corner of Christendom; and in many parts of the heathen world they are beginning to imitate the Christian festival. The date does not matter. Jesus was born of Mary. It is, indeed, the most joyous time of the year because it marks the greatest event in human history—the birth of Jesus. The British historian, Stanley, in opening his history records the incarnation of God in Christ as the world's greatest event; and why not be glad? It forecasts the world's salvation from war and the day of world brotherhood.

It is a sad commentary on our civilization that this holy event should be celebrated by so many people in this Canada of ours by boozing to excess, with all the gibbering talk and ribald songs that will be sung. My first taste of whisky was on a Christmas morning from a kindly old Highland Scotswoman who made it a practice to come around and treat his neighbours on Christmas morning. It was about seven years old but that taste is still in my mouth. I lived to see the day when, after a tea party, I saw that old man's son fall on the road and take a while to get up. Many boys have learned to drink from their father's example; and some of them to their ruin.

A pity any liquor shop in Canada should be open on that holy day, but those greedy, remorseless creatures that manufacture and sell liquor would find it a great trial to miss their best sale-day of the year. God is very patient or he would rain some judgment on us for tolerating such temptation in our society, erupting in impiety and ingratitude to him for sending his Son, our Lord. I am, Sir, etc., W. I. GREEN Stanley Bridge.

The Poet's Corner

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

I say to thee, do thou repeat To the first man thou mayest meet In lane, highway, or open street— That he and we and all men move Under a canopy of love, As broad as the blue sky above; That doubt and trouble, fear and pain And anguish, all are shadows vain, That death itself shall not remain; That weary deserts we may tread, A dreary labyrinth may thread, Through dark ways underground be led; Yet, if we will one Guide obey, The dreariest path, the darkest way Shall issue out in heavenly day; And we, on divers shores now cast, Shall meet, our perilous voyage past, All in our Father's house at last. —R. C. Trench.

Notes By The Way

Trips by American senators and congressmen to Ottawa, or by Canadian MP's to Washington, would hardly change deep-rooted national policies, but they could clear away some of the ignorance and misunderstanding which exist on both sides of the border, and spread a better appreciation of the other side's attitude and problems. This would be particularly true if care were taken to include some of the stronger U. S. isolationists, and some of our own anti-Americans. —Edmonton Journal.

New Edmonton has joined the ranks, those melancholy and invidious ranks, of Western teams that have bowed to the power of the Toronto Argos. The Eskimos carried the banner of the West and their defeat is felt throughout the Western Conference. The time for allis, for explanations, and for conjectures is past. There is always a chance next year to reverse the verdict and bring the Grey Cup back to the prairies. Others will be trying but they had better all watch the Blue Bombers—and that goes for the Argos too.—Winnipeg Free Press.

If having high government officials make trips to faraway places to ask private investors to invest in a province is the best way of attracting foreign capital, Saskatchewan ought to be one of the most-invested-in provinces in Canada. At the moment, Premier T. C. Douglas is in Great Britain, talking to British investors, hoping to encourage them to come here and develop our natural resources. While Mr. Douglas is in Britain, the second man in the government, Provincial Treasurer Clarence M. Pines, has turned up in New York, with D. H. F. Black, provincial industrial development director.—Regina Leader-Post.

It is not without a common significance that Mayors Lamport of Toronto, Whittion of Ottawa and Reaume of Windsor have all been re-elected. Whatever the individual geniuses and special abilities they share this in common: a keen sense of publicity. They put on overalls, cowboy's hats, elbow their way into the thickest crowds at fires, ball games and conventions. They can raise tipples in tea-pots. They can bandy kisses as well as words. —Peterborough Examiner.

One day Miss Alice B. Hunter, assistant superintendent of the Port Arthur General Hospital, went to the Public Library to get a

"BLUEPRINT FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS"

By L. P. McIsaac "A smooth flowing and intensely interesting account of a study tour in the British Isles and Western Europe in 1951—followed by an appraisal of economic trends and conditions at home." —The Publishers. On sale during Christmas season for only \$2.75 at local Co-op Stores. In Charlottetown, write or call The Island Co-op Services Office.

Your Possessions

The things you live with—your home, your business, your "stock in trade"—are all subject to loss through accident or circumstances beyond your control. For your own sense of security, you should learn how easily you can be protected. We will be glad of an opportunity to serve you.

HYNDMAN & CO. LTD.

Insurance Since 1872. Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN, SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE Agents throughout the Province.

The Passing Scene

By Observer THOSE UTOPIAS

With the world as it is it is no wonder that now and then we read of some group sailing to unknown places in search of "the good life". The urge to get away from it all is not confined to those hardy adventurers, however. It is shared in some measure by us all. The song of the psalmist, "O that I had wings like a dove, for then I would fly away and be at rest", at times finds a sympathetic echo in every heart.

Ever since the beginning of the first community men have been longing for the ideal place to live, a place where there would be no discord, no inequalities, nothing but sweetness and light and harmony. Often this delight of the imagination is called "Utopia", a Greek word indicating "no place". A few, more daring and venturesome than their fellows, have tried to translate their utopian dreams into reality, to convert "no place" into "THE place". Again, as in almost every place of human relations, we must go back to Plato. His "Republic" is not without many inconsistencies and some cynicisms. And in the light of what we know today to be democratically palatable, much of the "ideal" that Plato had in his mind appears dull and unromantic. Nevertheless, he still remains the most skilled of the Utopian architects. There is plenty of room for argument as to whether or not the Utopians were sincere in their motives. He really believed that the good life could become a possibility for all men, here and now. He would start with government which would be controlled by the wisest men in the community. By "wisest men" he meant men trained in philosophy. Only they, he thought, could be trusted to govern.

Each person in the community would be employed at the kind of work for which by training or temperament or both he appeared to be best fitted. This also would be decided by the wise men. Each individual would be recompensed not on the basis of his work but on that of his need. State planning would cover everything from the production of goods to the number of children allowed in a family. Perhaps the most readable plan for the ideal community is that found in Burnet's translation of Sir Thomas More's "Utopia", the original being written in Latin. Until he fell from royal grace, no difficult matter in those days, More was a politician of some standing and a man of considerable wealth. But he was also a bit of a philosopher and his soul revolted at inequalities he saw on every side. "Utopia", ostensibly a novel, was concerned with plans for a perfect society. Common property, general franchise (in this he differed from Plato), free education. These were the essential marks. Unlike Plato's Republic, where everybody worked with his hands at least some of the time, there was in Utopia one privileged class made up of those who possessed extraordinary intellectual gifts. Their living was provided for them by the community, and they themselves were left to pursue their studies and research in peace. At the time, More's views were considered, as one critic put it, "ideal, but nonsensical". However, some of his plans, including free education and various forms of social security, are now accepted practices almost everywhere. A hundred years or so later Francis Bacon, the famous Elizabethan essayist, wrote a book called "The New Atlantis" which, in a sense, was a sort of sequel to More's "Utopia". About the only original thing it had to offer was the inclusion of inventors in the highly privileged bracket which under More's plan had been monopolized by the scholars. In modern and comparatively-modern times plans for model communities have been executed here, there and everywhere, but so far none has been able to withstand the storms which have blown against it. In New Harmony, Indiana, nothing but reversed ruins now stand where in the early 19th century Robert Owen set out to make a

paradise on earth. And for a good many years the experiment seemed to justify his faith in utopianism. Peace, contentment, and joy continued to reign in that strange corner of the Mid West. But, as tragedy had come to the original garden of Eden, so it came to New Harmony and one more Utopia was numbered among the discarded things of human history. Ever since the beginning of the search for perfection was launched, and this scheme was the most grandiose of them all. New Harmony was no longer to be an oasis in the desert for all men who might want to stop and drink, but only for the chosen few. Backed by great sums of money and cultural prestige here was a model community that surely would never rust or decay. Across the sea and down the Wabash came the philosophers and the scholars whose destiny it was to show the world how intellectual aristocracy could flourish and abound. Great libraries and laboratories were erected and New Harmony, which only recently had been taken from the wilderness, was hailed as the cultural centre of civilization. So it was—for a season.

I have visited New Harmony, which now is just like any other small American town, many times. Like hundreds of visitors I have looked at the few remaining signs of the dreams of Robert Owen and his successors. I have looked—and pondered. Will Utopia some day be realized or must it always remain a dream to spur men on to something that is for ever out of reach? For that matter would a life without struggle, fears and failures be good for any human being? Is what we call security, in either its material or spiritual sense, the chief characteristic of the good life, or can it be that there is something even more precious? Perhaps it is true after all that "Our little lives are kept in equilibrium by opposite attractions" and desires.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. K. L.)

SUMMERSIDE POLICE

"Instead of having two policemen doing nothing, as has been the case, the Summerside Town Council have come to the conclusion that one man can do the work just as easily and quite as well. This conclusion has been arrived at after the policemen had asked for an increase of pay, and upon not having their wishes accorded to, tendered their resignations, which the Council accepted, they to continue their duties until the 1st of May. They have been receiving \$20 a month each and clothing. This they considered not sufficient, and were, we learn, willing to fulfill their arduous duties upon receiving an advance of \$4 a month. On Monday night last the Council accepted the tender of Shephard Allan, as a night policeman, for \$30 a month." —The Examiner, April 29, 1881.

The Age-Old Story

And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill thine horn with oil, and go. I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemitic: for I have provided me a king among his sons. . . . And Samuel did that which the Lord spake, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the Lord: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab and said, Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

- Palmer & Haslam A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B. Barrister, Etc. Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers Charlottetown, P. E. I. MONEY TO LOAN
Gaudet & Haszard GILBERT A. GAUDET, B.A., LL.B. Barristers and Solicitors Money to Loan Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg.
Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST Dental X-Ray GLORIA BUILDING 179 Grafton St. Phone 291
J. A. Carruthers, R.O. OPTOMETRIST 128 Kent Street Phone 2872 (Next to Simpson's Agency)
Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. 150 Richmond St. — Charlottetown Phone 590
H. R. DOANE & COMPANY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS 148 Great George St., Charlottetown Phones 2080 - 1647 - Box 247
McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Kirkland Lake, Moncton, Hamilton, Edmonton, Charlottetown, Currie Bldg., Charlottetown. Telephone 1658