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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1950

Island Record Ignored

The following statements are taken from an article on hog breeding in Canada appearing in the current issue of "The Country Guide", a western publication, by J. G. Stothart, senior husbandman for the Dominion Experimental Station at Lacombe, Alberta:

"Hog grading was started in Canada in 1922. Prior to that almost every known breed of hogs was produced. Fat hogs and lean hogs; long hogs and short hogs; red, black and white hogs—all went into the production of pork. Since 1922 there has been a steady improvement toward better and better bacon hogs. Hog grading was the turning point in the story of hogs in Canada.

"In 1923, the first year hog grading was in effect, Canadian hogs graded only 12 per cent Grade A. In that year Ontario hogs graded 20.8 per cent Grade A; but in the prairie provinces Alberta hogs averaged only 2.3 per cent, Saskatchewan 4.1 per cent, and Manitoba 6.7 per cent top grade. Thirteen years later, in 1936, the average for Canada was 24.4 per cent Grade A. Ontario hogs by that time graded 31.6 per cent Grade A, Alberta 22.6 per cent, Saskatchewan 16.7 per cent and Manitoba 17.1 per cent, with Quebec averaging 18.9 per cent, and the Maritime Provinces 21.5 per cent Grade A.

"In the 13 years between 1936 and 1949 several changes took place. The Canadian average reached a peak of 32.4 per cent Grade A in 1946, and dropped to 31 per cent in 1949. The average for the Maritime Provinces rose from 21.5 per cent to 45.7 per cent in the same period. Quebec climbed from 18.9 per cent to 29.8 per cent, Ontario from 31.6 per cent to 37.8 per cent. Quality in the Prairie Provinces was much more erratic. Manitoba rose from 17.1 per cent in 1936 to 26 per cent in 1945, and dropped to 21.8 per cent in 1949. Saskatchewan rose from 16.7 per cent to 29.2 per cent in 1941, and gradually dropped to 24.5 per cent in 1949. Alberta, in 1949, stood a little lower than it stood in 1936. From 22.6 per cent Grade A's in 1936 it rose to 33.3 per cent in 1939, dropped to 23.9 per cent in 1943, rose to 27.2 per cent in 1945, was down to 21.8 per cent in 1947 and had 22.2 per cent of its market hogs Grade A in 1949."

What is notable about the above statement is that it ignores entirely the outstanding achievement of our Prince Edward Island hog breeders.

It is not entirely Mr. Stothart's fault. The Dominion authorities take the figures for the Maritime Provinces and lump them together erroneously picture so far as the record by Provinces is concerned. For the comparatively high standing of the Maritimes (of 45.7 per cent of Grade A hogs in 1949), this Province is entirely responsible. Actually, Prince Edward Island hogs graded 52.7 per cent Grade A in 1949, while the percentage for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was down in the 30's.

Bremlins In The Cold War

Noting that reports of flying saucers in the British skies have been met with scepticism by scientists, the Ottawa Citizen argues that "something more constructive than mere denial" is required, and goes on to say: One Royal Air Force veteran has suggested that the explanation for the flying saucers lies in the gremlins. These were little men who upset pilots and made things go wrong with aircraft during the war. Sometimes they sat on the plane's wing, where they wrought havoc. The bolder snuggled in right beside the pilot, to distract him from his work. It is suggested that these gremlins have now learned to fly themselves. Hence the flying saucers.

It will be recalled that for a time after the war the gremlins disappeared, but no one, least of all the scientists, bothered to ask why this should be so. It may well be that the gremlins have been too busy taking flying instructions to bother dislocating air transport. If this is so, a valuable ally in the cold war is being overlooked. It might have been possible, with the new

supersonic, jet-propelled aircraft, for pilots to have taken evasive action in such a manner as to shake ordinary gremlins off their tail. But gremlins who have learned to fly in saucers are another matter. Scientists and military men would do well to find out whether the gremlins have actually learned to fly, and if so, enlist them on our side. It is already 11 o'clock, and time is short.

Living Longer

The tendency for modern man, and even more modern woman to live longer is providing a headache for those responsible for pension schemes. The Bell Telephone Company in Ontario has been told by actuaries that pension costs will be \$320,000 higher in 1952 than in 1949 largely because of this trend.

As might be expected, the fact that we are not going to die at an early date does not bring complete gloom to the business community. In the matter of insurance, for instance, the picture is just the reverse. Because people tend to live longer, life insurance premiums are on the down grade. The companies know that their policy holders will keep paying in longer and their heirs will not be able to collect at such an early date as was formerly to be expected and consequently the rate chargeable for life insurance goes down.

Other factors enter into the exact cost in each case of course. Interest rates are important. Present low returns tend to increase the cost of both pensions and insurance but are offset, at least partially by the high state of reserves of most such companies today.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The first international flight of a Canadian mail-carrying jet airliner takes place today. The flight from Toronto to New York seems likely to open up a new era in communications on this continent.

It is satisfactory to learn that it was not the gangway of the Magnificent that "carried away" in New York. The offending equipment was obtained from the pier, not the Canadian carrier.

It seems that thrift is no longer a patriotic virtue. Resources Minister Minters urges women to stock up their spring wardrobe and not hesitate to take that long-planned holiday.

This is budget day in the United Kingdom. Its relative importance has been lessened by the even more vital state management of food supplies and prices but in absolute terms the budget today seems likely to reach an all time peak.

Dartmouth complains that official red tape prevents aircraft on the trans-Atlantic run from getting Customs clearance to points in the United States. It would seem that the difficulty actually is the lack of official red tape in the Nova Scotia town.

During his twenty-six years' residence here as manager of the Woolworth store Mr. L. J. Stacey has been very active in community affairs, and his departure for Fredericton, N. B., along with Mrs. Stacey and family will be regretted by a very wide circle of friends.

Erasmus Darwin, English physician and poet, died this date, 1802. He practiced medicine at Lichfield and Derby. By his first marriage he was grandfather of Charles Darwin, by his second, of Francis Galton. He anticipated in part the theory of evolution propounded by Lamarck and by his grandson. His chief works are, Zoonomia, Phytologia and his poem, The Botanic Garden.

The famous British aircraft carrier, "Ark Royal", which earned much renown during the war, is not to be forgotten. A new vessel with the same name is to be launched by Her Majesty the Queen on May 3rd. The Admiralty has issued a special Fleet Order inviting all officers and men who served in the original carrier to be present at this ceremony. A similar invitation is being issued to members of the Royal Marines who helped man the "Ark Royal."

Large scale experiments to test new technique in the use of fertilizers are being carried out in Northern Nigeria which, if successful, will result in greatly increased production of groundnuts in West Africa. At the same time, tests are being made by the Colonial Development Corporation to see how far it is possible and economic to introduce mechanized methods into the framework of West African peasant agriculture. Transport difficulties in Nigeria have now been largely overcome and it should be possible to move the whole groundnut crop each season. There are at present about 200,000 tons of groundnuts, or as they are known here, peanuts, in the Kano area which should be cleared before the next buying season.

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.

APPRECIATION

Sir,—I would like to acknowledge the nice compliment paid to me by "A Guardian Reader" in the April 14th issue of the Guardian, with this verse of thanks:

I know these simple words are trite, And they can not repay, The kindly deed that you have done To lighten up my day. But they are sent you from my heart, For you alone to hear, And they are written to express My gratitude sincere.

I am, Sir, etc. CONSTANCE I. HECKBERT, Summerside.

WHY THE SECRECY?

Sir,—About ten days ago, Charlottetown children began bringing home rumours of impending Saturday school sessions. None were sure of the reason, or whether the sessions were to be for a half or whole day or for how long.

On enquiry it was learned that up until last Saturday, even some of the teachers and principals themselves were "in the dark." It has been suggested that the move was made necessary due to the fact that the School Act requires a certain number of days at school each term, and as it is the intention to close at an earlier date this year, the extra sessions are necessary to make up these days. If that is so, why was this not planned at the beginning of the term, and a Saturday half-session held once or twice each month, rather than cram them into the dying days of the school term?

We feel that there must be a good reason for extra sessions, but surely as parents we are at least entitled to some explanation and an advance announcement. The only announcement we've seen was a small indefinite paragraph in the evening paper. Many children have special Saturday commitments such as music lessons, dental appointments, Saturday jobs, etc. and with parents kept "in the dark" as we have been in this case, a great deal of annoyance and confusion has been caused. Why the secrecy? I am, Sir, etc. A CONFUSED PARENT.

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Sir,—Your editorial reference to the joint annual and party organization meeting of the Dominion Progressive-Conservative Association in session this week at Ottawa, in your issue of April 13th, was timely and to-the-point, and useful too, if it would but focus attention on local party affairs in a manner sufficiently arresting to induce some action on the part of those to whom the destinies of our Provincial Party has been relayed.

There is no criticism for delay to be found with officials of the Dominion Association. Only about nine months have elapsed since the Federal general election of June 22nd, and the second session of Parliament is now in full swing. The Fall session resulted in the most devastating routing of a government, numerically three to one, by an Opposition, that was ever witnessed in this or any other country. The Cabinet, and other stalwarts of the Government were figuratively on their knees pleading for mercy. The onslaught of the Opposition held them up to the ridicule and scorn of the electorate, irrespective of political affiliation, as the hidden pre-election conduct of the government for political advantage and purposes was exposed. The present session gives promise of being equally interesting, even although the government is studiously treading the narrow path, with all the circumspection of which they are capable.

The present annual meeting may be looked upon as a stock-taking occasion when, after enumerations are completed, plans for the future of the Party will be formulated and machinery set in motion through which future functioning will be carried on.

But what about the Province? That is where effective organization and work must be undertaken and done, if there is to be a strong Dominion Organization and Party. What about our own Province? What position do we occupy politically? Have we got a Provincial Party organization, and in what state of repair is it at the moment? These are questions we may well ask ourselves as Conservatives. Since the last Provincial election was held, three sessions of the Legislature have taken place. After four sessions are held, it is customary to call a general Provincial election.

We cannot, as a Party, afford to bank upon a fourth session on this occasion. Premier Jones has stated that within the last few months his Government resigned en bloc and the Governor invited him to form a new administration, which he did. The recent session, therefore, was the first session of a new government. Following the forma-

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

REBUKE FROM GLADSTONE

From a letter from the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Colonial Secretary, Downing Street, London, 1st April, 1840, to Lieutenant Governor Huntley: "I have noticed with some surprise, the practice which seems to prevail among the Magistrates of Prince Edward Island, of receiving in labour, the fees for cases tried before them. I was not aware that there was any law or usage in any of the British Colonies which would sanction a practice of this description; and as I cannot but think it highly objectionable wherever it may exist, I request that you will use your legitimate influence with the Magistrates in the Island under your Government to discontinue it."

The Age-Old Story

If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasure.

or prepared to accept the challenge, when a snap-decision by the government is unceremoniously pronounced. I am, Sir, etc. CONSERVATIVE

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Notes By The Way -

Enactment of the Point Four program is overdue. The powerful conception underlying it has been permitted to gather cobwebs in the recesses of Congressmen's minds. Their concentration on the negative aspects of our struggle with world Communism has made them overlook the grand chance lying at their fingertips to offer to the underdeveloped countries of the world something more than the dubious encouragement of words or the necessary but defensive shelter of bombs. By promptly enacting the program of technical aid for the development of impoverished nations they can illustrate the promise of democracy in the tangible ways which alone can carry meaning and hope to people who have never known it. -New York Herald Tribune.

Have you ever been in a movie when a picture of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent was flashed across the screen? If so, you probably didn't hear much applause in the theatre. But last Thursday night in North Bay theatre the likeness of another national leader was shown in a newswreel and a vigorous fair-sized applause burst forth from the audience. The man on the screen was Joseph Stalin. Is this our first indication of the "little Red ome" which exists in a terrifying thought. -North Bay Canadian community? It Every Nugget.

Within the brief period of a year, no estimate of the outcome of union is anything more than a speculation, but in the fact that Newfoundland is in full partnership with a virile, enterprising and powerful nation, there is reason to believe that the 10th province, working in a spirit of loyalty with the Dominion and striving to play its full part in the family, may face the future, not only without fear, but with every confidence. -St. John's Telegram.

Now it is the Snow apple that appears to be doomed to extinction. And that is a pity, in the view of old-timers, for this variety was once a general favorite. But the Farmer's Advocate points out that the Snow is no longer a good seller, is too small to grade well or to appeal to present-day buyers. The improved Snow is of larger size, but its flavor is not equal to its diminutive ancestor, and hence, it is on the way out too. Growers in Ontario are grafting their Snow trees into Spys and McIntoshes. -Hamilton Spectator.

Throughout his career, Walter Huston, the Canadian actor, built his reputation on a homely appeal to what may be called the family group component of theatre audiences. He did not shine as a

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