

Easter

Like all great festivals Easter has gathered many and varied associations, so much so that its basic meaning might be expected to be submerged. There is no danger of that, however, for the Cross and the risen Lord stand out in spite of crowds and crowded events.

It represents the supreme loss and the supreme gain. Like so much of the teaching of Jesus it has significance for every age and every people although the actors in that drama represent a generation which has vanished. When we do it "unto the least of these" we serve or persecute the founder of Christianity.

Today, as always, we are ready to do both as the mood seizes us. Perhaps never before has mankind shown such consideration for the well-being of old and young, the sick and afflicted. Perhaps never before have we shown more callous disregard for human life.

Pity is one of the outstanding characteristics of Jesus, pity for men who are blind and foolish, pity for humanity that is its own worst enemy.

Every generation must face its problems and must strive without ceasing to meet and overcome the temptations and avoid the errors that lead to disaster. The way in which the world today differs from that of two thousand years ago is in the fact that the stakes are higher. Instead of a family, a tribe or a nation being threatened with annihilation because of taking the wrong path, today it is all the world that must answer for the choice that is made.

The Peace Tower Bells

Who is responsible for deciding when the bells in the Peace Tower at Ottawa are played? This interesting question was posed in the House of Commons the other day by Mr. J. Angus MacLean. Mr. MacLean noted the carillonner draws a considerable salary, which he thought only fair; "about half as much again as M. P.'s drew until recently." He wondered who was responsible for the programming, the hours, and so forth.

Hon. Mr. Winters replied that the content of the program was entirely the carillonner's own. He reports to the Deputy Minister of Public Works on matters respecting administration generally, but normally he is left to his own devices to choose his programs and the time of playing, which is pretty much the same from year to year. The program is set up at the first of each year and is published and made available in the form of a little booklet.

The Peace Tower at Ottawa has 53 bells, exceeding in number the famous carillons of Europe's mediaeval cities of Bruges, Antwerp and Ghent. But New York City and Chicago have larger ones, of 72 bells each.

Historic Geneva

At Geneva on April 26 the Western Powers, the U. S. S. R. and Communist China will try to iron out differences over Korea and Indochina. They meet in a city that has always lived close to great events and has emerged as one of the world's intellectual centers. A principal city of traditionally neutral Switzerland, Geneva has built a reputation for independence and tolerance, and has often played host to international gatherings. Some of these are recalled in a National Geographic Society bulletin.

In 1864 the International Red Cross was founded there. In 1946 and 1949 Red Cross conferences placed civilians within the rules of war and revised the regulations concerning prisoners, sick and wounded. In 1872 a Geneva tribunal awarded the U. S. \$15,500,000 growing out of the depredations of the British-built Alabama and other Confederate vessels. The city became the home of the League of Nations in 1920. Four years later it lent its name to the Geneva Protocol on regulating international disputes. From 1932 to 1934 a world disarmament conference was held at League headquarters. Geneva now is the seat of the International Labor Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe, the World Health Organization, and the International Committee for European Migration, all United Nations affiliates.

The roots of the community go far into history. Julius Caesar built a town on a near-by hill. John Calvin, apostle of rigid morality, made of Geneva a prime example of theocratic society. Here John Knox, the Scottish reformer, found refuge. Here Jean

Jacques Rousseau and Albert Gallatin were born. Four miles away Voltaire spent his last 20 years. On her estate close by, Madame de Stael reigned over her celebrated salon. And in Geneva's outskirts Byron and Shelley spent the summer of 1816.

Today Geneva boasts a 150,000 population, the long established University of Geneva and several museums. Speaking mostly French, the inhabitants make up a cosmopolitan city where the mind sweeps distant vistas of thought and the eye commands some of Europe's finest scenery. The trees are neatly trimmed. Spacious promenades border the formal water front. Pleasure craft dally on the Lake of Geneva's speckled waters. From the grounds of the League of Nations building, where the East-West diplomats will meet, visitors can see the Alps' loftiest summit, snow clad Mont Blanc, 15,781 feet high. Casting their eyes to the hills may, perhaps, be a good thing for the delegates in the off moments of their deliberations.

Scientists Not To Blame

Foreign Minister Georges Bidault of France was recently quoted as saying that "scientists are sorcerers' apprentices who often unloose forces over which they have no control." The speech in which this glaringly puerile observation was made was delivered just after the Americans had exploded another hydrogen bomb in the Pacific.

There is plenty of controversy these days over whether it is wise or even sane to keep on exploding one H-bomb after another, and the question is not one that can be answered by a plain yes or no; there are good and reasonable arguments on both sides. It is manifestly unfair, however, to blame the scientists for any danger, actual or potential, connected with the hydrogen bomb or, indeed, with any other product of their research. It would be just as reasonable to blame automotive engineers for the fatal accidents which occur on the highways of the world.

Science itself is neither moral nor immoral. Its functions are to search for knowledge, to bring natural forces, hitherto hidden, out in the open, to test and, where possible, to perfect each new discovery as it is wrested from the secret places of the universe. The application of new knowledge and the disposition of newly revealed forces are matters to be determined not by science but by the social and moral consciousness of mankind. If nuclear devices ever do get out of control it will not be the fault of the men who discovered the secret but of human perverseness, avarice, and ill-will, which from time immemorial have militated against the good and peaceful life.

It is testimony to the increased maturity of American diplomacy that the newly proposed Pacific pact, unlike its predecessor of a few years ago, is designed to include Britain and France.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Easter Day.

It is appropriate in this year of remarkable building development that the first vessel to enter Charlottetown harbour should have carried a cargo of concrete. A great deal more will be required before the season is far advanced.

Provincial and municipal authorities compete with the Federal Government, not only for the tax dollar but for personnel. Two Charlottetown police constables have been granted leave of absence to train as R. C. A. F. security police and at the same time it is announced that 100 teachers are required for children of servicemen in Europe.

The season of grass fires has begun with the destruction of a home at Southport and threatened destruction of another. Anyone thinking of using this method of clearing away the dead vegetation would do well to consider seriously the risk involved. Even if no buildings are destroyed, considerable damage may be caused to the soil itself.

Henry Vaughan, Welsh poet, was born this date 1622. A native of the land of the ancient Silures, he called himself "Silurist." A physician, he is believed to have served in the Royalist forces. His first book was "Poems, with the Tenth Satire of Juvenal Englished" and was published in 1646. His work is of decidedly unequal quality. At best he shows fine imagination and deep religious feeling.

Two traditional policies are reversed by Britain's undertaking to keep troops on the continent of Europe, indicating the vital importance which the British Government attaches to the European Defence Community. For many years successive British Governments shrank from maintaining land forces on a continental scale and at the same time a reluctance to commit other members of the Commonwealth to obligations by proxy stayed her from giving up her freedom of action by entering into unlimited commitments.



HAPPY EASTER!

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.

ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITY

Sir.—There are two sides to this question of economic responsibility, individual and government. Now we seem to be approaching an economic crisis, and this question comes to the front. Unemployment is increasing all over Canada and the United States, creating much uncertainty and distress. Here is a big, strong Italian of forty years and just laid off. He has wife, and four children. He has bought a second-hand car upon which high monthly payments are due, and a house he is trying to pay for. He runs the risk of losing car and house. For the present he depends on unemployment insurance, but that will not last long. It is all very well for a minister to enjoin: "Don't worry!" but if he were in the laid-off man's shoes it might be different.

The Government has an economic responsibility, but just how far should the Government go? We can safely say this that anything that interferes with the personality of the individual, anything that hinders his proper and independent development is not sound policy. The character of the individual is all-important. The man who has lost his sense of responsibility is no good. He is no longer a citizen. I am afraid of politicians who are always urging the Government to hand out money to the public. Some people need help and ought to get it, but it should be done cautiously.

There was a day when I needed help urgently and would have taken it if it had been offered. When I started for Dalhousie I had my last quarter's teaching salary—\$56.00, a ditch digger's pay for as hard work as I ever did, teaching in an ungraded school. My four year course in Dalhousie cost me a lot and I had to borrow, and of course pay back but that struggle did me heaps of good.

It is no kindness to relieve one of responsibility. Nothing develops character as a deep sense of responsibility carried bravely and with skill. A girl of thirteen loses her mother and is left as house-keeper with father and four brothers and sisters. Immediately she begins to be transformed from a quite ordinary child into a woman, alert, thoughtful and efficient. Almost invariably this has been the case with young girls or boys who have been left in charge of home or farm. They have risen to the occasion with courage and efficiency. Boys from the farm do well in college, on the average better than city-bred. Every day I see boys and girls too, driving tractors and taking a hand in farm work. When boys and girls learn to do things and develop a sense of responsibility they grow. Not much fear that they become criminals and a burden of the state.

The Government has, indeed responsibilities for individuals, who are unable to care for themselves but not every one who asks for help and would gladly take it if offered.

I am, Sir, etc., Stanley Bridge.

GEORGETOWN FERRY

Sir.—As one who is interested in the Georgetown ferry service, I am very disappointed over the efforts of our two representatives put forth to keep our service in operation. While reading the Premier's speech some time ago, I noted that he referred to Mr. Bell as wanting everything for his own district. I believe Mr. Matheson should show a good example himself before criticizing the Opposition Leader. First he built a new bridge in his district which I believe was needed badly. I also believe our ferry boat was needed badly in the Fifth District of Kings. Mr. Matheson thought differently. A petition was arranged by parties in his district, asking to have the road from Lower Montague to Montague paved. The pe-

NOTES BY THE WAY

We met a fellow this morning, obviously a man of means. He not only had a \$10 tie but he also had coffee stains on it.—Brandon Sun.

Reason why oldsters say food was better in the good old days, is because they had teeth then with which to chew it.—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

The faculty of an Oklahoma college thought the worried look on the faces of their students was due to impending examinations. They found that the students were worried about parking troubles.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A clergyman of the Church of England wrote to the Times that when he registered at a Swiss hotel recently as a "clerk in holy orders," the manager asked him to be more specific and say what he really was. This led to a series of letters from other clergymen, one of whom reported that when he stated what his occupation was during the last war and he described himself by that phrase, he was drafted to the pay corps as a clerk instead of being accepted as a padre. The origin of a "clerk in holy orders" goes back to mediaeval times. In those days, only highly-educated people could read or write, and as priests were almost the only people who could do that, they were frequently called upon to do the writing of records. Accordingly they came to be referred to as "clerks in holy orders," and the description has stuck to them ever since. In course of time anybody who did writing came to be called a clerk.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Parents of youngsters who want to quit high school before completing the course might find it useful to draw their attention to the fact that one of every three persons in Canada now registered as seeking work is unskilled. When the labor market shrinks it is the unskilled who have the least chance of keeping a job.—Brantford Expositor.

One reads about an expedition of a dozen men from California, New York and Arizona, going to the Arctic ice packs to shoot polar bear, and is unfavorably impressed. Polar bears are the legitimate prey of the Eskimos who depend upon these beasts for their livelihood. It is right to hunt of necessity and something else to hunt for the pleasure of killing, although that's called "sport." It will be a vast pity if one of the last places on earth of the primeval is invaded by wealthy sportsmen who are the only ones who can afford such junkets, going there with lust for the slaughter of the natural life.—Sydney Post-Record.

Nature note: As a small travels at the rate of one mile in 10 years, it isn't necessary for him to signal before making a turn.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

Moscow will devote 75,000 acres to the growth of roses and geranium for use in scents. Prepare now for fiacons of such perfumes as Factory Allure, Evening in Irkutsk, Collective Farm Desire, and Canal No. 5.—Toronto Star.

The chaos in Egyptian governing circles illustrates perfectly why it would be folly for the British to quit the vital Suez base and leave it to be defended by a bunch of people who don't know their own minds two days together.—Brantford Expositor.

The 1941 sedan has one feature we haven't seen listed, even as optional equipment, on these sleek new models. We refer to the way the glove compartment files open automatically when you slam the left rear door.—Winnipeg Tribune.

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The Age Old Story

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The Passing Scene

By Observer The Day Itself

It always has been my lot—some would say my misfortune—to be engaged in the kind of work that does not demand early rising: by that I mean at or before dawn all the year round. (This reminds me of a farmer who once told me that he did not see how any civilized person could stay in bed after the sun was up.) On the few occasions I have seen the sun rise I have felt better for it especially when, as was the case on Thursday, great expectations were in my mind. Whether or not it makes a man healthy and wealthy is a matter of opinion; frankly I don't think it does in every instance. As for wisdom, I am sure it takes more than an alarm clock or an early walk "on the upland lawn" to give it welcome. Here some words of Milton come to mind: "And oft, though wisdom wake, suspicion sleeps at wisdom's gate, and to simplicity resigns her charge."

The ground was frozen so firmly at 5 o'clock on Thursday that I was almost ready to take a chance and journey afar off; fortunately, the little wisdom I have been able to accumulate over the years persuaded me that this act of the night was a delusion and a snare. So, not relishing the prospect of being held up most of the day by deep ruts in clay roads, I decided to content myself with some place along the highway.

In a metaphorical sense I am sure that ruts have been widely maligned. It is, of course, true that the will to explore new avenues of thought and to make new ventures in living, even if need be at some risk to one's comfort, is of inestimable value. Nevertheless, an established oneway thoroughfare is also, at least in some cases, a pause before deviating recklessly into untried paths. The ideal, no doubt, is a well planned combination of the old and the new. Perhaps the greatest danger is the "either-or" complex to which most of us are devoted. Life is never quite as simple as that.

Now that fishing is rapidly giving place to privilege, it isn't as easy as it once was to find a place to fish along the paved highway. However, I was lucky enough to find an unprohibited pool and I was about to congratulate myself on being the first to arrive at that particular spot when I saw a man wading towards me. He said he had been there for a couple of hours (it was now nearly 7) and so far he had not had so much as a nibble.

"I can remember," he said, "when you could get your limit here any time at all. Fishing on the Island is not nearly as good as it used to be. It seems like the more laws they have, the fewer trout there are." I agreed with him about the gradual diminishing of trout activity in these parts but I couldn't quite see the connection between conservation laws and the scarcity of trout. I felt like telling the man that if there had been more laws in the past there might be better fishing now, but I don't like to argue with a fellow fisherman on opening day, so I left it unsaid.

Anyway, game laws, like most other laws, serve little purpose when they are not backed up by public opinion, and it is an unfortunate fact that this has not been for conservation for a long time. I've noticed a very noticeable increase in the practice of ignoring the rules and regulations are usually not given to law-breaking in other respects. They seem to look upon game wardens as busybodies to be thwarted and hoodwinked at every opportunity and they see no serious implications in this kind of outlawry. Obviously, until this unreasonable attitude can be corrected, laws are not going to help very much.

The man was right when he said there was nothing to be had in that particular place where in other years, so he said, it had been just a matter of pulling them in. But, later on in another spot I did manage to catch a few good ones, better than the average, and, as usual this early in the season, it was bait that attracted them. Although this caused me no extraordinary compensation, for reasons which I have set down in a previous article, I secretly hoped that I would get away without being accosted by someone to whom bait of any description is anathema.

This, however, was not to be and, when I saw a man whom I recognized as an uncompromising fly-catcher coming in my direction, I steeled myself for the inevitable test of fortitude. After we had exchanged greetings and expressed similar opinions regarding the wretchedness of the weather (all in very proper sentences, of course) I showed him my catch which he was gracious enough to admire in the best Waltonian fashion.

"I don't know how you did it," he said, "I've been casting one fly after another all morning and I didn't raise one. The fish were sure here but they wouldn't take a fly." "Mine wouldn't either," I confessed, "it took a little while for the significance of this little sentence to sink in, but finally it did and he said, 'You don't mean to tell me you used bait?' I nodded in the affirmative and the disappointed man went his way. I wanted to run after him and tell him what the noted ichthyologist had said about the relative merits of different ways of fishing for trout and also assure him that just as soon as the weather warms up I will be fishing nothing but flies; on second thought this seemed a foolish thing to do, so I gave up the idea and started for home. Anyway, I had run out of bait.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

HORSE POWER MACHINES

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