THE GUARDIAN

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"

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

TUESDAY, NOV. 1, 1955

Princess Margaret

Princess Margaret has announced publicly her decision not to marry Group Captain Townsend. There is no need to go into the circumstances of the romance, which have been given that merciless amount of publicity that beats about the Throne and all associated with it. Her Royal Highness has come through a serious emotional crisis which has been all the more trying on this account. The esteem in which she is held is perhaps as much accountable for the spate of publicity as the fact that the question of her rights of succession were involved in her contracting a civil marriage under the circumstances. In any case there is no further excuse for prying comment or speculation.

Her Highness states that she has reached her decision alone, strengthened by the support and devotion of Captain Townsend. "Mindful of the church's teaching that Christian marriage is indissoluble, and conscious of my duty to the Commonwealth, I have put these considerations before any other." These are her words; and if they imply heartache they indicate still more clearly Her Highness' sense of responsibility and duty. They are in keeping with a tradition which, though not always followed, has been a guiding principal with the Royal Family for many years.

Her Highness, in words of moving simplicity, expressed her gratitude "for the concern of all those who have constantly prayed for my happiness." Their name is legion, and their prayers will continue to rise for her peace of mind and true happiness throughout the years.

A Magnificent Showing

We doubt if the record made by our Island potato growers at the Maritime Winter Fair has been equalled at any interprovincial exhibition, in any part of Canada, at any time. They made a clean sweep of all the top prizes, with a Souris farmer, Mr. Anslem MacDonald, winning the Maritime potato crown for 1955.

This is striking evidence of the success our growers have achieved in not only maintaining but improving the superior quality of their product. Normally their potatoes should be in correspondingly greater demand, both at home and abroad, and they should not need to worry about markets at premium prices. But the market is not normal, and unless more protection is afforded than by the support prices offered this year, the industry will be seriously endangered.

Our growers have done their part magnificently, in producing not a luxury product but a commodity in daily use on every table in Canada. The wealth produced by this industry, brought as it has been to the highest point of efficiency in quality production, is a major factor in our provincial economy. It should be so considered at Ottawa, in a manner commensurate with its importance and with the gravity of the present price situation

A Good Turn

Mr. Coldwell of the C.C.F. and Mr. Low of the Social Credit Party are doing the Canadian Government a good turn by suggesting that External Affairs Minister Pearson, now on a world tour, should either cancel his proposed trip to Egypt or add Israel to his itinerary. The remarkable thing is that this important matter evidently was overlooked when Mr. Pearson's tour was being arranged. As Mr. Low says, it matters not one iota whether the stopover at Cairo is in the nature of a holiday or an official visit; any sign of favouritism, as between Egypt and Israel, on the part of this country—whether intentional or not—is bound to give rise to a lot of unnecessary bewilderment in the Jewish State. After all, Mr. Pearson takes a lower place only to the Prime Minister himself in Canadian officialdom. Wherever he goes, officially or unofficially, he is looked upon as Canada's representative. That being so, the Israelis are going to look askance at his presence in a hostile country right on their own borders, should he neglect to pay them the courtesy of a friendly call.

The situation in the Middle East is worse now than it has been at any time since Israel and the Arab States entered into their uneasy truce. Anything can happen there, even the start of a third world war. Canada, like all other Western nations, doubtless is trying in every way possible to ease the tension in that region; all the more reason for adhering strictly to diplomatic niceties. This might not—and probably would not—do much to keep the Israelis and Egyptians from fighting and quarreling; but at least it would show that Canada is aware of the importance of not even seeming to take sides at this very critical and dangerous time.

Farm Publications

Two valuable publications dealing with the Atlantic Provinces have been issued by the Experimental Farms Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture. One is a Crop Variety Guide, a revision of the original publication of 1954, which presents the variety recommendations in all crops for these Provinces. The recommendations are based on information gathered at the Experimental Stations at Charlottetown, Fredericton, Nappan, Kentville and St. John's, Newfoundland. The varieties included represent only a small percentage of those tested; the remainder have been considered unsuitable or less desirable for this area for various reasons. The booklet covers cereal and forage crop varieties, small fruits, tree fruits and vegetables, and gives also a crop variety zonation map.

The other booklet contains an interim report on agricultural investigations conducted by the five farms of the Services in the Atlantic Provinces. It is intended as a supplement to the regular Progress Reports that are issued separately at 5-year intervals by each of these institutions. The publication, though by no means complete in details, is intended to keep farmers, extension workers and the general public informed as to the latest findings in this important phase of experimentation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dame Flora MacLeod has revealed that a notorious spy of the First World War was a MacLeod. She was quick to add, however, that the woman acquired the name by marriage; so, the millions of MacLeods scattered over the world need have no worry on that score.

• • •

There are times when it pays to be a little lighter than the other fellow. At the world championship weight-lifting contest the other day a man from Ohio and another from Russia lifted 891 pounds. The American was given the title because he weighed a few ounces less than his rival.

• • •

At least one member of the newly created Council of the Throne in Morocco can't be considered too young or inexperienced. He is Hadj Mohammed El Mokri, 101 years old and Prime Minister to various Sultans for more than a half century. He certainly should know his way around.

• • •

The United States Secretary of the Interior reports that there are now 590 trumpeter swans in existence, a decrease of 52 from last year. How anyone can be so sure of his figures in such tabulation is a mystery. Isn't it possible that a few of the more mischievous birds are in hiding somewhere, just to confuse the census takers?

• • •

If, as is reported, former Premier Mendes-France tries to recapture the French premiership when election time comes around, he can expect to have a considerable body of voters on his side. One of his last acts before giving place to M. Faure was the issuing of a decree allowing only agricultural workers to turn home-raised fruits into alcohol.

NOT THE USUAL ENDING

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.

FIRE HAZARDS

Sir, — At this season of the year we watch boys and grown-ups at night and in the daytime burning piles of leaves on the streets and lawns, and consider this a very dangerous practice especially among small children. One wonders if there is a fire law here or not. Some people have been observed burning large piles of leaves and grass while the smoke drifted into others' windows and open doors. We have watched small children armed with matches and papers burning piles of leaves and grass at night and running with burning bundles to other piles right under our windows and right back of our cars to near the gas tanks for comfort. Yet there seems to be no law to stop this practice, or is there?

A lot of fires have been started from burning grass in summer time and maybe some of the fires have come from burning leaves and grass. This letter is not intended as a slur or slam at anyone but to ask that question. Is there a fire law here or is it O. K. to burn leaves, grass and anything we wish right on the city streets?

I am, Sir, etc.
W. A. O'BRIEN.
Charlottetown.

(The City Fire Marshal advises that it is unlawful to light a fire in the streets between the 1st. of May and the 1st. of November. It is unlawful at any time to light a fire which would endanger anyone's buildings or other property.—Ed. G.)

STILL HALE AND HEARTY

Sir, — In a recent issue of your paper you carried a story on Mr. Merrill D. Muttart, a native born Prince Edward Islander, who now operates an industrial empire from his Edmonton, Alberta, headquarters. We would like to thank you for this notice.

We would, however, like to correct one error which was made in the write-up. You report that Mr Muttart is the son of the late Mr. Sampson Muttart of Cape Traverse and left there with his parents at the age of four. We would like to call to your attention that Mr Sampson Muttart is still hale and hearty and will shortly be seventy-nine years of age. He is living in Edmonton where he has been active in the building industry since 1903. Mr. Muttart also tells me that he formerly lived in Summerside and that is where his son, Merrill was born.

I am, Sir, etc.
MUTTART ENTERPRISES LTD.
Per O. F. Cusack
Edmonton, Alta.

The Poet's Corner

NEAR-RAIN DAY

I would as soon observe the world beneath
A pewter sky, when rain is in the air,
But not quite realized; when autumn's sheath
Is stripped away and winter's blade laid bare.
This clean, sharp beauty is a thing to see
With indrawn breath grown spangled with the cold.
Now every line is keenly drawn, each tree
Stands separate and distinct. Their branches hold
In arms of praise the crystal curve of skies.
My eyes behold this fantasy in gray
With sudden seeing, with a strange surprise
At stark, clear beauty on a near-rain day.

—Bonnie Elizabeth Parker, in the Christian Science Monitor.

Atomic Waste Products

Unesco Bulletin

New atomic power plants within the next few years poses a very serious problem to the industry. That is the disposal of the radioactive materials which are produced in the reactors. They are, so to speak, the ashes of the atomic furnaces. As the uranium atoms go through the fission reaction, what is left is a large number of other elements that provide no heat but do give off dangerous rays of many kinds. They must be removed from the furnaces because they impede the fission reaction itself and thus slow down the energy production of the reactor. It is not easy to find a place to put them.

The radioactivity of this mixture of materials is intense at first, sometimes thousands of times as great as the activity of the same amount of pure radium. The intense radioactivity dies out within a few days or even hours yet the materials remain dangerous for many years and a slight radioactivity will remain after thousands of years. The common method of disposal at present is to transport the material carefully to large underground tanks, deep in the earth, where it remains for a period of months or years, under careful guard. The problem is what to do with it after that.

One proposed method is to enclose it in large concrete blocks and drop it into the ooze at the bottom of the deepest part of the ocean. By the time the concrete is worn away, thousands of years would elapse and the radioactivity would have decreased to almost zero. But some experts feel that there may be strong currents in the sea at great depths, so the concrete would be worn away more rapidly and the radioactivity would be released; it would thus find its way into plants and fish and be come dangerous as human food. On the other hand, other experts point out that even if this happened, the radioactivity would concentrate in the bones and scales of the fish which are not used as food.

Another suggested method of disposal is to bury these materials under heavy concrete in deep abandoned mines or even in deep natural caves. This would be safe enough except that explorers and archaeologists centuries into the future might unsuspectingly encounter their rays. The strangest suggestion was made by an American professor who proposed that these materials should be loaded into a space rocket and sent permanently far from the earth, cruising through the remote regions of the universe like a lost star.

It was agreed at the United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva last August that the problem must be solved and that meanwhile scientists and government should make certain, probably by international action, that proper precautions are always taken for the disposal of radioactive waste.—

All Aboard The Magpie

(BBC Weekly Summary)

The Duke of Edinburgh's old ship, the Royal Naval frigate Magpie, is sailing from Simonstown in South Africa, to one of the loneliest inhabited British islands in the world, Tristan da Cunha, which lies nearly two thousand miles to the west. Besides the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, who will be making his first visit to this outlying portion of his diocese, two dentists, an agricultural expert, a schoolmaster and various other people, she carries eight enthusiastic young men. These eight will travel on by fishing vessel to an even lonelier spot, Gough Island, threehundred miles further south-east. Most of the officers and men of the Magpie are doubling up in order to provide accommodation for their extra complement plus equipment.

The expedition, consisting of two zoologists, a botanist and a geologist from Oxford and Cambridge Universities, film and radio experts and a South African meteorologist, will have as its leader a Cambridge history graduate, Robert Chambers, who will co-ordinate all survey activities.

Few people have visited remote Gough Island but those who have done so describe it as a naturalist's paradise, abounding with seals, penguins and other birds, and many plants and strange mosses. The island is volcanic and believed to be part of a ridge running from the North to the South Atlantic of which the Ascension Islands and St. Helena are believed to be part.

The small expedition will study this flora and fauna and make a thorough geological survey. A number of British scientific institutions, including the Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Everest Foundation, are sponsoring the expedition and the Duke of Edinburgh, who is keenly interested, has also contributed to the funds. The expedition will set up a weather bureau on the island and meteorological reports will be broadcast to South Africa several times a day so that although stationed in one of the loneliest places in the South Atlantic they will be in constant touch with civilization.

HISTORIC VESSEL

The Santa Maria, largest of the three ships with which Columbus discovered America, displaced about 80 tons.

New Zealand's Maoris

By J. C. Graham
Canadian Press Staff, Auckland

The Maoris of New Zealand are one of the most advanced of all native races. But they have now reached the stage where their future is in doubt.

Experts hold sharply conflicting views on how the race will develop. The query arises because of the speed with which the Maoris have advanced. In a century and a half they have jumped from a Stone Age culture to a stage where they can hold their own in Western civilization.

The early explorers found that the Maoris knew nothing of the use of metals. For tools and weapons they used sharpened stones. They had no written language. They were cannibals.

In the period since then the Maoris have shown themselves to be amazingly adaptable. They have produced cabinet ministers, noted scientists, university professors, bishops, doctors, lawyers, poets and a Miss New Zealand. They live side by side with Europeans, without a color bar and on terms of virtually complete equality.

NOTABLE ADVANCES

Even in the last 20 years they have shown notable advances. Their numbers are increasing more rapidly than the white population and their standard of education is rising steadily. Twenty years ago Maori children lagged two or three years behind other children of the same age at school. Today they advance at nearly the same rate as Europeans.

With his rapid progress the general assumption is that the Maoris will before long be completely assimilated into the European population. Once country dwellers, the Maoris already live in large numbers in the cities, doing the same jobs as Europeans and living in ordinary European houses. Many people believe that the Maoris will become indistinguishable from Europeans except for their brown skins. Even this difference is likely to decline. The number with all-Maori blood is decreasing.

But the theory of the Maoris merging into the white race is sharply challenged by a number of leading experts. R. O. Piddington, professor of anthropology at Auckland University, says the Maoris will retain a separate racial entity whatever is done. He is strongly against efforts to reduce differences between Maoris and Europeans.

"The myopic cry of assimilation should not blind us to the aspirations of the Maori people," Puddington says. "In certain fields Maori and European want and need to live together as equal but different kinds of New Zealanders."

This view is supported by other authorities on the native race, including some of the Maori leaders themselves.

The government does not lean either way in the controversy. It takes another view again. Says the minister of Maori affairs, E.B. Corbett: "It is not a question of trying to turn a Maori into a European, which is impossible. It is one of gaking him a good citizen, in accordance with the requirements of his environment."

SNOW IN ONTARIO

TORONTO (CP)—Southern Ontario experienced its first chilly touch of winter's fingers, Tuesday. Snow as deep as six inches was reported at one point and nighttime temperatures were at freezing or below through the province. Hanover, 60 miles north of Kitchener, recorded six inches of snow.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

IT'S BEST TO VARY DIET

Variety is the spice of any reducing diet.

No matter how good they are for you, you can't eat the same foods day after day. Yet, if you want to lose those extra pounds, you've got to remain on your diet.

The trick of course, is in substitution.

LOW CALORIED FOODS

The principle of a reducing diet is to eat foods low in calories yet fortified with plenty of vitamins and minerals. The following vegetables qualify and may be substituted freely for other vegetables in your diet:

Asparagus, celery, lettuce, spinach, string beans, sauerkraut, cauliflower, brussels sprouts, tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, beet greens, egg plant, broccoli, endive, radishes, peppers and chard.

In fact, you can eat about as much as you want of radishes, celery, cucumbers, lettuce and raw cabbage. They won't add many calories.

While carrots contain a greater number of calories, you can include them once in a while if you limit yourself to half the quantity allowed for other vegetables.

Lean meat or beef, lamb, veal, and pork contain about the same amount of amino acids. Beef, veal and lamb can be used interchangeably if you remove all outside fat. Turkey and chicken are good too. But pork should be used sparingly, because it usually is infiltrated with fat.

Don't, however, substitute anything for liver in your diet. Because of its special qualities, all of us should eat it at least once a week.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

M G.: I am a 52-year-old woman and haven't had a menstruation period for a year and a half. Am I still indanger of becoming pregnant?

Answer: Usually, in women in whom menstruation has ceased for this period of time, there is no chance of becoming pregnant.

The Age Old Story

When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the coice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is no longer considered fantastic to talk of the day when most people in Canada and elsewhere in industrialized lands will live to be 90, retire at 50 and spent the last 40 years sitting around, possibly in abysmal boredom. When that time arrives, says the economists, the factory work-week will be down to 24 hours. What are people going to do with all that leisure?—Brantford Expositor.

The editor of the Victoria Times boasts that people out his way may work in their gardens 365 days a year, whereas gardeners elsewhere in Canada are forced to hang up their tools for six months. Of course there is many a husband in these parts who believes if anybody has a right to boast, it is the chap who gets the six months rest.— Fort William Times- Journal.

The merest fraction of a second intervenes between the impact of collision of motor vehicles and injury or death to paseengers. At just thrity miles an hour a person with both hands pressed against the instrument panel of a car and feet braced against the floorboard would have to withstand the force of more than half a ton on each arm and leg to prevent being hurled forward. At thirty miles an hour the elapsed time between collision and injury is a tenth of a second. In short, a motorist can kill himself quicker than he can think about it. The only thing that will save him is thinking first.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

We know of an ex-mayor of a Canadian city who was defeated three years in succession when he first souht an aldermanic seat. On his fourth attempt he was elected, and at the head of the poll. He was re-elected, and at the head of the poll each time, for three years after that. Next time out he ran for mayor, was elected by a handsome majority, and was returned as mayor again twice afterwards. All interested in the welfare of Nanaimo should give immediate consideration to suitable candidates for municipal office in December. And, whether approached or not, anyone who may feel that he or she is in a position to give good municipal service should announce himself or herself early. Candidates are needed who sense the opportunities lying before Nanaimo and who may feel that they can help to further those opportunities.—Nanaimo Free Press.

Buried somewhere in the old ier's bible KR and? (King s ations and Orders) there is be a warning against hol army court martial before Apparently His Majesty feare some hungry and testy colone might sentence a poor devel to be shot immediately, whereas after a full meal and a bottle of port he would be satisfied to let the victim off with a couple of days in the klink.

The family size farm exerted a stabilizing influence on the economy of Eastern Canada, and still does. The occupants having a stake in the welfare having contributed much to the welfare of the area as awhole. The family size farm is the basis of a healthy agricultural industry in Eastern Canada, and every possible effort should be made to prevent the amalgamation of farms and the disappearance of industrious contented, land-loving freeholders.—Farmer's Advocate.

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