

THE GUARDIAN

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Conservative Nominations

As anticipated, Messrs. W. Chester S. McLure and J. Angus MacLean were re-nominated as Conservative candidates for Queen's in the next federal election. The sitting members' names were the only ones presented to the convention. Mr. McLure is a veteran in public life and Mr. MacLean has shown both ability and conscientiousness in the discharge of his duties at the last session of Parliament. They are both to be congratulated on their renomination last evening.

The Liberal candidates, Messrs. Cecil Miller and Neil Matheson, have already been nominated and it remains to be seen whether any third party contestants will enter the ring. So far there have been no nominations in King's, and only one—that of Mr. J. Watson MacNaught, M.P., as Liberal candidate—in Prince. The federal election date is, of course, still problematical, the latest rumor being to the effect that it may be held early next spring. But in any case, it is good political strategy to have the candidates early in the field. It enables them to contact the electorate and to do a considerable amount of organizational work before the campaign gets under way. In the case of the Queen's Conservative candidates, and of Mr. MacNaught, they will require shortly to be in their seats at Ottawa. With a fresh mandate from their party supporters, they can return reinvigorated to their onerous parliamentary duties.

Young Canada's Book Week

To non-readers, poor souls, it may seem that reading is a solitary vice but probably the greatest joy in reading is that of sharing experiences with others. During Young Canada's Book Week which begins today it would be an enchanting experience for many parents to share a book with their youngsters. They can open up new worlds to little boys and girls and at the same time strengthen the ties with loved ones by the shared experiences.

There is a bond, too, between boys who are familiar with a common hero and between girls who all know and are intensely concerned about the happiness of heroines of fiction. Reading expands the opportunities for social activity rather than otherwise so that the bookworm is no more the typical reader than the muscle-bound strong man is the typical athlete.

The Canadian Library Association, whose national committee is represented here by Miss Dorothy Cullen of the Prince Edward Island Libraries, is making an effort to encourage more reading of more worthwhile books by more children at home, at school and at the library. The Association has published a useful little check list of "Young Canada's Favourite Books" which contains reading suggestions for children 2-5; 6-8; 8-10; and 11-14 years. It is, of course, most inadequate but any child who is given a taste of the books listed will almost certainly take steps to explore further in the world of books.

No Safe Alternative

What has been gained by the prolonged struggle in Korea? Many people are asking this question, and perhaps one of the best answers was given the other day by Dr. Ralph Bunche, Director of the United Nations Trusteeship Division. Speaking at Macdonald College, Dr. Bunche termed the Korean War "the greatest failure of the United Nations," because it is only in Korea that the world body has been unable to prevent war or to halt it once it started. But in another sense, he pointed out, "it is also an outstanding success." For in Korea, aggression was met by United Nations forces, acting in unison on United Nations orders, though voluntarily supplied by United Nations members.

The dream of a "world police force" under a world directorship has thus been brought near to reality. And aggression has been made costly and futile, for the aggressor in Korea has not only paid a terrible price for his invasion but has been denied the fruits he sought to gain from it.

Though Korea may be the most salutary example of U.N. problems, the principles involved apply to all the work the world organization has sought to accomplish. Considering the tasks it has set out for itself, its progress has been slow. But considering the actual authority it wields, it is amazing there has been progress at all. For

the United Nations is not a sovereign body. It has no power other than that voluntarily assigned to it by its member states. And, though it is an extremely difficult thing to get a majority of those member states to agree on programs to be undertaken, the fact that they agree at all is something new in the world.

The United Nations membership, today, is close to being universal. That means that its projects have to cover all the vast differences of race and history and government and geography and climate and economics that are represented in the world—before they can be accepted. That is why United Nations deliberations require more patience than statesmen have been asked to exhibit before. But that is the very reason why it is all the more important that they do exhibit such patience. The United Nations is not only the most universal instrument of modern times to work for the preservation of peace: it is the only instrument.

An Awkward Arrangement

Under the United States constitution there is nothing anybody can do to give legal effect to a change of administration before the January date the constitution sets. The arrangement Mr. Truman and General Eisenhower have made, to give representatives of the incoming president a hand in policy-making in the State and Defence departments and in budget-making, until inauguration day in January, is beyond the constitution and is an emergency measure to avoid an awkward interregnum until Eisenhower takes over.

In the Canadian system, notes the Ottawa Journal, we have a simpler practice. Here a defeated Prime Minister resigns, with his cabinet, in a matter of days and the incoming administration takes over without fuss or delay. And it should be added, that under the American system it would be practically impossible for the president-elect to take over from the president almost immediately after the election. When a year ago Mr. Churchill defeated Mr. Attlee (he Mr. Churchill) was able to take over the government at once because Mr. Churchill, a former Prime Minister and with long experience in cabinets, would be perfectly familiar with Whitehall and Downing Street, as would be many of his ministers. But in the United States the new president is almost invariably somebody without experience in either administration or the Congress, and thus must have time to consult with advisers, to familiarize himself in some measure at least with the problems of government. To a new president like General Eisenhower, without any previous experience in government, this indeed is essential.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 23rd Sunday after Trinity.

That we cannot have tax cuts and increased government services is a truism, but Finance Minister Abbott puts it slightly differently. He tells the Canadian people that they cannot ask for such increased services. The implication is that government policy merely reflects popular demands no matter how conflicting.

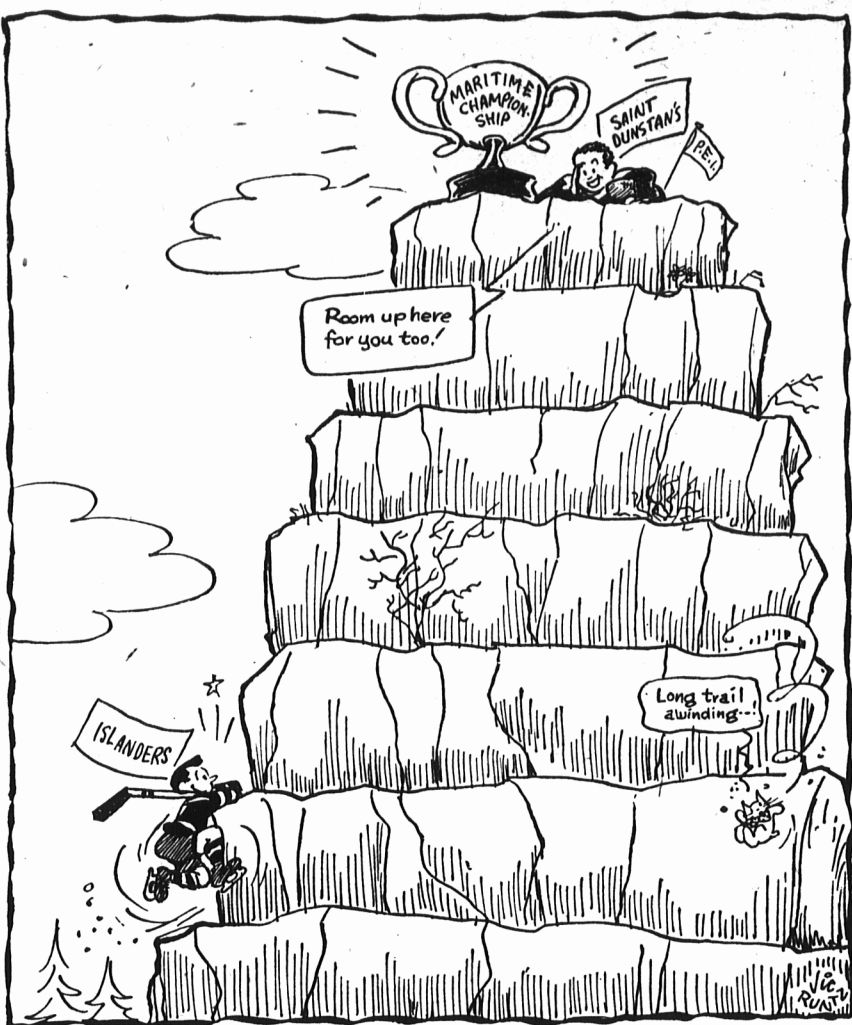
The entire North American continent turned into one great telephone exchange is the aim of United States and Canadian telephone companies. Dividing the continent into some 90 3-figure coded areas for numbering purposes, the companies propose that we will be able to call Vancouver or San Francisco as readily as we will soon be able to put a call between Charlottetown and Summerside.

William Pitt, first Earl of Chatham, was born this date 1708. One of the greatest figures amongst English statesmen, and one of the greatest of parliamentary orators, he had to contend throughout his career with the active dislike of the king. Known as the "Great Commoner", he was enormously popular and the nation took it ill when in his last cabinet he accepted a peerage and the sinecure portfolio of Lord Privy Seal. Although he never approved of the war against the American colonists, his final speech was against acknowledging their independence.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations has begun publication of the monthly "Plant Protection Bulletin", devoted to the global problem of combating plant diseases and pests. The periodical results from the F.A.O.'s International Plant Protection Convention of 1951 which called for the "establishment of a World Reporting Service on plant diseases and pests." An important feature of the Bulletin will be plant quarantine announcements, the first time such information will be available on a world-wide scale. Another chapter will be added to the beginning of our western history, and we will have better understanding of the legacy we now possess.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband... And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth... And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the

On His Way



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.

HEATHER IN P. E. I.

Sir,—I have noticed in your paper a number of references to Heather and noted, particularly, that some claims are made that our native Sea Lavender (Limonium carolinianum) is the Heather (Juniperus communis) in question. This, of course, is not correct. The Heather of old world literature is Calluna vulgaris. The flowers of this plant are rosy pink, rarely white, and are produced in great profusion in the late summer. The leaves are scale-like, in four rows, and the branches are therefore quadrangular in outline. The Heather is particularly at home on dry slopes and sandy banks, although it may grow in swamps. Calluna vulgaris is listed in Blythe Hurst's "A New Flora of Prince Edward Island" and in Dr. A. E. Roland's "The Flora of Nova Scotia." It has therefore a fairly wide distribution. All records point to an early European introduction.

I am, Sir, etc. G. WARREN Horticulturist Dominion Experimental Station Charlottetown.

WE ARE IN DEBT

Sir,—Many of us attended the Remembrance Day ceremonies. We were reminded of our debt to the fallen heroes. We watched the wreaths being placed on the monuments by their friends. We saw a widowed mother lay her token of love with the rest, in honour of a husband and only child who both died that we might live. This was a reminder of our debt to many who are still living. We need to discharge a debt to our children who soon will be called on to stand in the firing line if we do not remove the cause of war. Our own greed and selfishness is the cause. If our missionaries are doing, the threatening clouds would begin to break. These heroic men and women are doing a strenuous job. And it is just the program that our Lord left in the hands of twelve men when on earth. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, raise the "dead", cast out devils; "freely ye have received, freely give."

We have been urged to pray that God would send us a lasting peace. If He grants this request, it will come through human agencies. Let us first intercede for the people of our home churches that they may rise to the occasion and give up to and beyond their means in this work of redemption. We in the favored countries have sufficient to feed and teach and support to every human being on earth, thus off-setting the Communist menace and bringing an answer to our prayer for peace, as well as paying to the Hindu and the African the debt we owe.

I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MacKENZIE.

The Age-Old Story

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband... And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth... And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

A BOGUS CHALLENGE

"A rather good joke, says the Pioneer, was last week got off on a professional pedestrian from one of the neighboring Provinces, who has been on the Island a good while trying to get up a match. Some wags wrote a challenge to him in Charlottetown, signed 'P. Doyle, Summerside', stating that he (Doyle) was willing to walk against him from 12 to 72 hours, at any time and place and for any sum that may be agreed upon. The pedestrian could not conceal his joy at the apparent good fortune, and at the unexpected maturing of his plans, telling his friends in Charlottetown that he had 'struck it last'. He immediately wrote to his supposed rival to repair to Charlottetown to have the necessary arrangements completed, while he inserted a notice in 'The Examiner' of the 23rd in reference to the matter. Thinking he had a 'sure thing', the pedestrian named a good round figure and waited anxiously for developments. His letter, however, was not received by P. Doyle, but fell into the hands of those wicked fellows who had concocted the scheme. The arrangements not coming to a focus soon enough to please him, and being impatient to get hold of the money, the pedestrian hurried off to Summerside and sought an interview with his rival. We may here state that there is in Summerside only one man named P. Doyle, a contractor, whose avoirdupois is close to 300 pounds; consequently he is not calculated to engage in a pedestrian contest. The amazement and chagrin of the professional may be imagined when he ascertained how matters stood, and he hastily put back to the capital, using words that have no business at all to appear in print."

The Examiner, April 2 1881.

And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there... And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The Poet's Corner

DEATH BY WATER

(From "The Waste Land")

Phlebus the Phoenician, a fortnight dead, Forget the cry of gulls, and the deep sea well And the profit and loss.

A current under sea Picked his bones in whispers. As he rode and fell He passed the stages of his age and youth Entering the whirlpool.

Gentle or Jew O you who turn the wheel and look to windward, Consider Phlebus who was once handsome and tall as you.

—T. S. Eliot.

Birth Rate Mysteries

(Windsor Star)

Among the many mysteries of nature are those which refer to birth rates. How is it, for instance, that over the years birth of male and female babies generally keep in balance? But how is it, also, that during and following wars the proportion of boy babies to girl babies is increased, as if to compensate for the loss of male power in the wars?

The World Health Organization shows World War II no different from previous wars in this way. Its statistics also show a large increase in birth rates in most countries, during the War and postwar periods, from that which prevailed in prewar days.

Certainly unfavorable economic conditions in the years before the war had an effect in keeping down the birth rate. And, prosperous economic times reversed the trend. But this occurred despite conditions which one would have supposed would work against a higher birth rate. Births increased in such countries as France, even when war and immediate postwar conditions would cause people to wonder about the advisability of bringing children into such a dangerous world.

The statistics disclose an interesting fact. Of the representative countries chosen for the survey, only Italy reported a decline—a substantial one—in birth rate. Over-population there, with much more manpower than jobs, may be

Notes By The Way

Mr. Churchill and General Eisenhower are old friends, of course, their friendship tested in the flames of war. It may well be of consequence in these troubled times that the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Britain call one another by their first names. — Ottawa Journal.

A Montreal editor who recently visited Russia says the Soviet Union is 50 years behind the times. Since the Russians have gasoline fumes, jet-propelled aircraft, and the atom bomb, just like modern countries do, perhaps the editor was thinking of Stalin's handlebar moustache. — Ottawa Citizen.

The following announcement of a rummage sale was nailed outside a Scottish church: "A jumble sale will be held in the church hall on Saturday. This is a good chance for womenfolk to get rid of anything not worth keeping but too good to be thrown away. Don't forget to bring your husbands." — Edinburgh Despatch.

The prospect of Victoria's retail stores closing down for a full day each week, which sales clerks have discussed, is one which will be met with grave misgivings by many in the area. In pressing for a full day off—whether on Monday or Wednesday—the sales clerks are overlooking the debilitating effect on business as a whole; the creation of a "dead city" in midweek.—Victoria Times.

Doug Watt broke up a cement cribbing in a well last week, in preparation for the installation of a steel cribbing. In breaking up the cement, a frog, which had been imprisoned when the cement was poured sixteen months ago, was released. The frog, while rather gaunt from its imprisonment, was soon quite lively again. During the time it was encased in the cement, it had no way of obtaining food.—Reston, Man., Recorder.

Significant news from Canada's capital is that a growing number of Canadians who went to the United States at one time or another to live are returning to their native land. The number returning during the first nine months of this year is 3,795, as compared with 2,877 in the corresponding nine months of 1951. The story is told that the late Lloyd George was once walking across the fields with a companion. As they passed through each of the gates along their route, Lloyd George stopped to see that each one was carefully closed. After watching in silence for a while, his friend asked him why he took such pains to close all the gates. The statesman's reply was that when he was still a young man an old man told him always to make certain he closed the gates after he passed through them, and that added, "I have found it good advice in my career." There must be a lot of farmers who wish their gates would follow that advice consistently these fall days. Gates left open and wire fences bent down by those climbing over them are the chief causes of the strains relations between farmer and landlord. — Kitchener-Waterloo record.

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