

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, 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 THURSDAY, OCT. 29, 1953

Efficiency Experts Mocked

The civil servant does not take anything lightly and a well of humour must have been filling in the Hon. J. W. Pickersgill for years before, as Secretary of State and a politician, he was able to throw off the impassive mask and poke fun at the foibles of very important persons. The v.i.p. he has prodded are all too accustomed to pointing out to inferior mortals the absurdity of their ways. The efficiency experts, for they are the victims, have harried many department head and janitor and it is only just that they should occasionally be taken down a peg or two. At any rate this is what Mr. Pickersgill has to say.

The efficiency experts applied their technique to a concert they went to hear and report on thus:

"For considerable periods the four oboe players had nothing to do. The numbers should be reduced, and the work spread more evenly over the whole of the concert, thus eliminating peaks of activity.

"All the 12 first violins were playing identical notes. This seems unnecessary duplication. The staff of this section should be drastically cut; if a large volume of sound is required, it could be obtained by means of electronic amplifier apparatus.

"Much effort was absorbed in the playing of demi-semi-quavers. This seems an excessive refinement. It is recommended that all notes should be rounded up to the nearest semi-quaver. If this were done, it would be possible to use trainees and lower-grade operatives more extensively.

"There seems to be too much repetition of some musical passages. Scores should be drastically pruned. No useful purpose is served by repeating on the horns a passage which has already been handled by the strings. It is estimated that if all redundant passages were eliminated, the whole concert time of two hours could be reduced to 20 minutes, and there would be no need for an interval.

"The conductor agrees generally with these recommendations, but expresses the opinion that there might be some falling-off in box office receipts. In that unlikely event it should be possible to close sections of the auditorium entirely, with a consequential saving of overhead expense—lighting, attendants," etc.

For Baby-Sitters

Rules for baby-sitters and suggestions which will help them to do a better job have been published by the Ontario department of public welfare and are recommended by the Truro Daily News as an enterprise that should be worth while in view of the record of tragedies in the province due to the carelessness or inexperience of young people who look after children.

Advice in the booklet to the effect that the baby-sitter should always know where the children are, and what they are doing, is of prime importance. The recommendation is made never to leave a baby alone, except if he is in a crib, play-pen, or fastened in his carriage. Even surprisingly young babies fall off beds or tables or tip over a highchair. Even after the children are asleep, the booklet advises, the baby-sitters should not relax their watchfulness. They should keep awake themselves and make rounds of the house every hour. Open the cellar door and sniff for smoke. Check the stove. Tip-toe into the children's rooms and make sure they are covered and breathing quietly and regularly.

If such advice could be placed in the hands of every young girl who engages in baby-sitting, the majority of them would better appreciate the seriousness of their jobs. Lives are entrusted to their care, something that involves conscientious attention. Just "being there" is not sufficient.

Guided Weapons

Much information on the behaviour of missiles in flight can only be obtained by the firing of test rockets carrying equipment which transmits data by radio to ground stations. Apart from a high standard of efficiency and reliability, the main requirements for airborne telemetry transmitters, reports Trade Topics, are high power output, good frequency stability against power supply run-down and mechanical stress, low weight and small volume and—since the life of the equipment is short—economy in cost.

Two main types of equipment are needed. For the measurement of aerodynamic

properties such as control surface positions, strains, pressures, and torques, the "time multiplex or sharing" system is adequate. This provides a large number of separate channels for the transmission of data, each with a low frequency response.

For measuring the wave forms occurring in electrical equipment carried by a missile, however, channels with a high frequency are required, for which the P.P.M. (pulse position modulation) and time division systems are usually employed.

Two systems fulfilling these requirements have been evolved by the U. K. Ministry of Supply scientists and are already in quantity production. Each consists of one type of ground receiver with several variations of airborne transmitter equipment.

These two sets provide adequate and largely complementary coverage for frequency response up to 200-230 cycles. The first (Time Multiplier) system provides 23 channels for the transmission of data, a further channel being reserved for synchronization. The second (P.P.M.) set gives up to 20 higher frequency channels any one or any number of which can be sub-commutated to give lower frequency channels.

If necessary, and if sufficient space is available, both sets can be installed in a missile, or two of the first systems and one of the second can be fitted to provide 46 lower frequency and 20 higher frequency channels.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Turkish National Holiday.

The woolly caterpillars and other creatures may well be predicting a long winter on the basis of the number of outdoor rinks being prepared at an early date by their human neighbours.

It is reported that three geese were brought down with a single shot by a Point de Roche hunter. Mr. John MacInnis is entitled to take his place amongst the fabulous hunters of all lands.

It seems to be as difficult to inculcate a proper respect in American youngsters as in any others. At a Penn State football game it is reported that "Hordes of local small fry came over the fence when the cops were at attention for the Star Spangled Banner."

There is technical as well as constitutional equality in the Commonwealth today, it has been noted by the Duke of Edinburgh. "In the early days the dominions had a lot to learn from us," he told Londoners, "but now, in a very wide field, this country can learn just as much from the sister nations of the Commonwealth."

The technique of fuelling at sea greatly extended the range of naval operations and reduced the advantage of the possession of widespread bases. Now that an atomic engine for submarines has been proved practical and the schnorkel shown to enable submarines to remain submerged for many weeks, sea warfare will hold many more surprises than ever before.

That "the whole progress of science and consequently of industry depends on the free interchange of ideas and information between the scientific communities of different countries", is the forthright statement of Dr. O. M. Solari, chief of the Defence Research Board. Until the advent of the Atomic bomb this was the creed of scientists the world over. Unless the fear which has taken root in every country is overcome the A-bomb will spell the end of scientific achievement even without being fired in anger.

James Boswell, Scottish author, biographer of Samuel Johnson, was born this date 1740. A younger brother of Lord Auchinleck, he studied law at Glasgow, Edinburgh, London and Utrecht. He went on to Berlin and Geneva, then to Italy and Corsica before returning to England. He met many people including Voltaire, Rousseau, Wilkes and General Paoli. It is only in recent years that his numerous writings, apart from the biography, have received attention, mainly because of the blight of Macaulay's explanation of that triumph as being the result of inspired idiocy.

"To my mind," says Nicholas Monsarrat, author of the best-selling novel, "The Cruel Sea", now British Information Officer in Ottawa, "the luckiest people in the world are not the people who make some spectacular amount of money, and then don't have to work any more: in fact, they are likely to turn out the most miserable. The luckiest people in the world are the people who have to work, and who manage to hit on exactly the kind of job that they would choose above all others—a job that remains continuously interesting and rewarding, no matter how long it continues."

Rescue In Prospect



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.

HARD EARNED DOLLARS

Sir.—I liked your editorial enquiring: "Why High Food Prices?" and was glad to learn that an inquiry into the growing spread between farm and retail food prices has been ordered in the United States by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson. Farmers can't understand why food prices should be rising when agricultural prices are dropping. Mr. Benson proposes to find the answer by looking into the distribution methods and profits.

I heartily concur with the idea, as expressed by one of your Toronto contemporaries, that a similar inquiry in Canada might have equal merit.

In this connection, I noted the following reply by the above U.S. farm authority in the course of a subsequent interview to the question: "Do you think food prices are too high, Mr. Benson?" "Americans are blessed with an abundance of good food. It now costs Americans a smaller part of their income for food than in nearly any other country in the world. Only about one-fourth of their income (after taxes) goes for food. If the inference is that the consumers feel that prices are too high, then certainly one thing is true—the farmer can't be blamed for those prices. At the present time he is getting just about 44 cents of the consumer's food-dollar." (Newsweek, Oct. 26).

There isn't much doubt in my mind that the farmer serves his urban customers well and faithfully. On the other hand I—living at the heart of the city—have a definite impression that the farmer always works twice as hard, and twice as long, for his rural dollar as the urban Canadian has to work for his. On balance, therefore, I have no fault to find with the farmer, with reference to the increasing cost of filling the food-basket in either Charlottetown or Toronto. We are still using a horse-and-buggy distribution system!

I am, Sir, etc. GANUCK

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

NEWSPAPER ITEMS

From The Examiner, Dec. 15, 1879:

Mr. Abraham Brown, of Little York, killed yesterday the young pigs which were so much admired, and which took first prize at the Exhibition last autumn. The age of the pigs when killed was seven months; their weights, 200, 278 and 228 lbs., respectively. We should like to hear of a farmer who can show a better result than this.

During the removal of the prisoners in Queen's County Jail to Kingston Penitentiary one of the prisoners—Oriley—was accompanied by a large rat which he carried inside the breast of his jacket. It seems that he has domesticated several of the rodents which frequented his cell, and he seemed to be especially fond of this one which he called "Mucky". He pleaded so hard to be allowed to take his strange pet with him that the jailor could not find it in his heart to refuse him.

The landscape paintings of Mr. Harris—on exhibition at the sales-rooms of William Dodd—have attracted a good deal of attention throughout the day; and we have no doubt that there will be an active competition for them at the sale on Thursday.

Dec. 15: Spring Park Brewery was sold at public auction by W. D. Stewart today, for \$4,900. W. R. Watson, Esq., was the purchaser.

The Poet's Corner

SNAKE

A narrow fellow in the grass Occasionally rides; You may have met him—did you not? His notice sudden is.

The grass divides as with a comb, A spotted shaft is seen; And then it closes at your feet And opens further on.

He likes a boggy acre, A floor too cool for corn, Yet when a child, and barefoot, I more than once, at morn,

Have passed, I thought, a whip-lash Unbraiding in the sun,— When, stopping to secure it I wrinkled, and was gone

Several of nature's people I know, and they know me; I feel for them a transport Of cordiality;

But never met this fellow, Attended or alone, Without a tighter breathing, And zero at the bone.

—Emily Dickinson.

UPPER CHAMBER

No person under 30 years of age is eligible for appointment to the Canadian Senate.

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

OF QUEENS COUNTY Annual meeting will be held in the Canadian Legion Hall, Grafton Street, on Monday, November 9th, at 8:00 P. M. Poll Chairmen are requested to arrange for the attendance of accredited delegates.

NOMINATING CONVENTION of the Second District of Queens will be held in conjunction with the above Annual Meeting.

REAGH BAGNALL, President.

FALL SPECIALS

MEN'S & BOYS' CLOTHING

STATION WAGON COATS

Men's heavy quilted lined coats — full fur collars, grey-blue and taupe shower proof nyl-gab 19.50 reg price 29.50 now

MEN'S STADIUM COATS

showerproof — windproof quilted wool linings zipper fronts — slash pockets — half belt reg. price 16.95 now 11.95

MEN'S HEAVY PARKAS

heavy quilted wool linings, four pockets, zipper front—on sale 11.95 Now

BOYS' STADIUM COATS

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

AN ANTICIPATION AND HOW IT ENDED

A reader of this column thinks it is time for me to make a mid-season report of the results of my hunting. I don't know why, for I am in no sense a good representative of the Nimrodian species, and neither my success nor failure in the chase would have much value in computing game statistics. However, for what it is worth, this is the report as at noon, Oct. 27: Ducks (all varieties) — nil; Geese — nil; Hungarian partridge (commonly, though disrespectably, referred to as "huns") — nil; Grouse — nil; Woodcock (I wouldn't recognize one if I saw it) — nil; Pheasants — nil.

In view of the fact that I have been on the prowl every afternoon since the season opened (except Sundays, of course) these results can hardly be called encouraging. On one occasion I was all set to bag a half-dozen mallards, or so I thought. At the last moment I discovered that the birds were of the barnyard variety; a discovery, incidentally, that did nothing to further the cause of cheerfulness.

On another occasion I was near enough to a gaily coloured pheasant to make life uncomfortable for him, but the manner of his take-off so intrigued me that he was well out of range before I realized that I had been outwitted.

There has been no lack of exciting anticipations, however. One such anticipation came my way only yesterday, and for a time I felt certain that the disappointments of the past two weeks were about to be forgotten in a bright blaze of hopes fulfilled.

An old friend arrived with the exciting news that he knew a place where there were "thousands and thousands of ducks." To hear him tell it, it was simply a matter of pulling triggers. You just couldn't miss. What was more, he knew a man who owned a dog which was guaranteed to bring the luckless birds, one by one, to any spot we might care to designate. The man would be delighted to loan us this sagacious retriever for the afternoon as a gesture of goodwill. In fact, he himself would go along with us just in case the dog might not like our manners and refuse to co-operate. I am not a man to turn down that kind of proposition and, although it was raining in torrents ("just the day for ducks", my friend suggested), I was all agog to enter on the expedition, making sure meanwhile to have plenty of ammunition for the great occasion.

In due time we came to the house where the man and his dog were waiting to join us. After the introductory formalities had been attended to we called for two other acquaintances in order that we might share the spoils as generously as the seating space of the car would allow. Perhaps I should say here that the dog, on meeting us formally, appeared civil enough but not over jubilant. For a moment I fancied I detected a supercilious glint in his eye as if he thought we didn't look too promising as gunners, but I put it down to my imagination and

(thought no more about it. After driving twenty miles or so over the roughest roads on the Island ("just a few miles on a good road," my friend had informed me) we came to within a half-mile of the pond where, allegedly, the ducks were ready and waiting to come to the slaughter. This additional half-mile had to be covered on foot and it was heavy walking. Finally we made it, with our good spirits still intact, for a bag limit of black ducks is worth a lot of physical endurance, especially when the heat is but ant.

Each man took up his strategic position; guns were loaded; the dog waited in silent expectation. Everything was going according to plan, except for one thing: there were no ducks to be seen. "A little early yet," the sponsor of the trip suggested. "So I notice," I replied. It was now 4 o'clock and on this dark day we could expect no more than one hour of reasonable visibility.

Ten minutes passed; then twenty, then thirty. But no ducks. Not blowing hard enough," someone remarked, but who was responsible for the profound statement I did not know and didn't care. I could think of nothing but the hard journey back to the car.

Suddenly, the dog gave two short barks. The first seemed to me to express disdain for foolish men; the second appeared to express the wisdom of a thousand years. I replied. It was now 4 o'clock and on this dark day we could expect no more than one hour of reasonable visibility.

That was the end of the most exciting anticipation I have had thus far this season. I have not yet been able to examine the resultant situation in all its angles, but one thing is certain. Never again will I listen to anyone who knows where there are "thousands and thousands of ducks."

The Age Old Story

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

LONG SHORELINE

Cape Province in the Union of South Africa has a coastline of nearly 1,300 miles.

GET 8 hrs. SLEEP

Nervous tension causes up to 75% of all sickness, particularly sleeplessness, irritability and irritability. Get a full night's sleep, calm the nerves during the day with sedative tablets—over 50 million packages sold first 18 months on the market. No prescriptions necessary, but ask your druggist only. Money refunded if sedative fails to help you.

Advertisement for Great-West Life Assurance Company. Features an illustration of a family and text: 'SECURITY FOR YOUR FAMILY. Today you can give your family the same security that a father has in the bank would provide. The Great West Life offers modern family life insurance plans that will guarantee your family a regular income to live on in comfort in case anything happens to you. There is a plan to suit your present income. For the sake of your own peace of mind... call us today.'

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