

# The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew  
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1956

## Young King Feisal

21 year old King Feisal the Second of Iraq has good reason to feel important these days. On a state visit to Britain, his country's staunch ally and, in fact, the creator of his modern kingdom, he is being wined and dined by royalty, praised by high government officials, and generally made to feel that he has a great part to play in preserving the peace and the freedom of the Arab world. He will have a lot to tell when he arrives back in his desert domain.

Actually, of course, the "partnership" between Britain and Iraq, to which Queen Elizabeth referred in her welcoming speech, is pretty much of a one sided affair—militarily, that is. In the event of war Iraq would have to depend almost entirely on its Western ally for its defence, and there is little or nothing that King Feisal could do, in a military sense, to help the Queen "vanquish and overcome her enemies". For all that, the Iraqi monarch has under his control—or, more accurately, under the control of his advisers—something without which modern armies, navies, and air forces, not to mention industry, would be powerless: OIL. Iraq is one of the great oil producing areas of the world. At present Britain has access to it and is determined, come what may, to keep the door open to it. Any attempt by the Soviet Union, or any other power, to seize it by force would mean war in the Middle East. That is one reason why young King Feisal was welcomed so warmly by Britain's great. And, it is freely acknowledged, Prime Minister Eden, with the practical sense that is a tradition in British politics, has stated frankly that Britain has no intention of loosening its grip on the oil fields and pipelines of Iraq.

It is not the only reason, however. Another, equally important in another way, is the fact that Iraq is the only Arab state that is heart and soul on the side of the West in the present great power struggle. The others are either casting longing eyes towards the Soviet Union—for economic considerations, of course—or opportunely trying to make the best of both worlds. This kind of friendship is worth cultivating to the utmost, if only from the standpoint of simple gratitude. But there is more to it than that. If, in the course of time, Iraq's economic status can show definite signs of improvement under its association with Britain and the West, without at the same time doing any injury to the country's independence, other Arab states might be encouraged to ignore Soviet blandishments which, as they must realize as they look towards Eastern Europe, inevitably lead to political domination.

## Wasteful Economy

In a recent brief from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture to the St. Lawrence Board of Review, it was stated, "The Queen Elizabeth Way, through the Counties of Lincoln and Wentworth, is responsible, more than any other single factor, for what will be the eventual destruction of the unique and irreplaceable fruit-growing area on the continent".

Had the Queen Elizabeth Way between Hamilton and St. Catharines been put above the escarpment, the fruit belt itself would likely have remained intact. Admittedly the cost of construction would have been higher, but the ultimate savings would have been incalculable.

In a study made for Cornell University, it was found that the value of agricultural production for ten years on land required for sections of the New York Thruway was greater than the cost of constructing those sections. It was also found that construction costs of a similar road over rougher terrain in the

same area, would still have been less than the value of production lost from the land taken.

What has happened in the Niagara Peninsula is happening in varying degrees all over the country and in the U. S. A. South of the border, within the past fifteen years, about 17 million acres of the most fertile land have gone into home sites, industrial developments, highways and other non-agricultural uses. If withdrawals continue at the present rate for another fifteen years, a total of more than 100 million acres of land which was once suitable for cultivation, will have been permanently lost to agriculture.

These facts are from an article by Mr. Gavin Henderson, secretary of the Conservation Council of Ontario, quoted in a bulletin sent out by the agriculture committee of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. They point up the fact that in the process of expansion, Canada cannot afford to squander the true basis of its prosperity—the land which gives us our food. The rape of the fruitlands of Niagara is the classic example of what can happen for want of forethought and planning. It shows, too, that governments are not yet sufficiently concerned over the problem to adjust their highway and other policies to deal with it.

## Victory For Flies

The common house fly is not much to look at, and as far as is known, it does not render much service to the world; but it is impossible not to admire its ability to survive in face of danger administered by science. A few years ago when D. D. T. was brought into the fight against it, it was thought that its days were numbered. Things did not turn out that way, however. After a brief period in which the fly gave every sign of having met its conqueror, it started to come back; and at the present time in various countries where D. D. T. has been used extensively the pest is just as bothersome as ever it was. Not only that; but, according to Science Service, the phosphate insecticides, more powerful exterminators than D. D. T., are fast losing their effect. This is contained in information from a scientific laboratory in Denmark where experiments in the new killers have been carried out over a lengthy period. At first, the report says, the flies appear to fall back before the attacking insecticides; but within a short time they build up an immunity against which any further treatment is powerless.

This new sign of defeat for science, following so soon after the D. D. T. failure, is making some scientists despair of ever being able to rid the world of flies. Meanwhile, if flies have any thinking apparatus—and no one knows whether they do or not—no doubt they are rejoicing over their latest victory and wondering what next in the way of terror they will have to combat—and conquer. A fly's life is not as carefree as it used to be.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

Marilyn Munroe is quoted as saying in London, "I like to think I am not as stupid as they say". It was a praiseworthy thought, certainly; a little spoiled, though, by her confession "I'm really the dumbest".

The Director General of UNESCO wants to know why students dislike mathematics. Having once been a student himself, he ought to know. And, if not, surely there must be someone in the world organization who would be only too glad to explain the whole thing.

People who feel sorry for wildlife at a time of big forest fires can stop worrying. According to a survey conducted in California very few animals or birds, no more than lose their lives in normal day by day hazards, are killed by the flames. They have some way of getting out ahead of the danger.

The Yarmouth fishermen who are holding out for \$3 a barrel for their herring will have a good deal of public sympathy. It is doubtful, however, that their "strike" will amount to much. To be effective it would have to be supported by fishermen over a wide area of the Atlantic and New England regions; and that does not appear to come within practical expectations.



## END OF AN ALIBI

## PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of current events of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

### OVERLANDER SPECIAL

Sir,—The Overlander Special—Moncton to Vancouver—rolled into Vancouver this morning with her passenger list considerably reduced as many of them remained in the Prairie centers.

Highlights of this very popular excursion included sightseeing tours of St. Anne de Beaupre and Niagara Falls. Besides there were abbreviated tours of Quebec City, Toronto and Winnipeg. At the latter metropolises the party went on a tour of inspection of the Legislative Building, which is considered by many Canadians as being unsurpassed from the point of view of beauty and architectural design.

The guide in spite of his Scottish birth made a very generous offer that if any of the visiting delegation would like a souvenir of their visit they were welcome to take one of the bronze buffaloes, two which guard the wide stairway leading to the second floor. However, one drawback to such an offer was the fact that such a souvenir would weigh five tons.

An additional highlight took the form of an enjoyable breakfast hour at the MacDonalda Hotel, Edmonton. This meeting was chaired by Lorne Campbell, President of the Maritime Association of Edmonton. Mr. Campbell paid high tribute to Mr. J. V. Dodds who not only is responsible for these excursions but who accompanies them and plays such a part in making them so deservedly popular.

Mr. Campbell also referred to the large place the Hon. J. J. Bowlen filled not only in the life of the Maritime Association of which he is vice president, but also in the wider Provincial field where he holds the important office of Lieutenant Governor. Doubtless Mr. Bowlen remembers very vividly the hard work he had to do as a boy in the potato fields of P. E. Island.

During this breakfast hour special pins bearing the crest of the Province of Alberta were presented to a number of Overlanders who had made a similar excursion in previous years. Mrs. Doris Phillips and Mrs. A. H. F. war, both of P.E.I., were among the recipients.

Some of the delegates from P. E. I. were so taken with the Rockies that they plan on trying to induce their government to exchange the 1956 crop of potatoes for one of the medium sized mountains, which with others form that mighty chain of mountains running on either side of the railway for almost 400 miles. Thus the "fill" of the Causeway will be assured.  
I am, Sir, etc.,  
ISLANDER ABROAD  
Vancouver, July 13.



### THE COMMONPLACE

The commonplace I sing;  
How cheap is health! how cheap nobility!  
Abstinence, no falsehood, no glutinous, lust;  
The open air I sing, freedom, toleration.  
(Take here the mainest lesson—less from books—less from the schools.)  
The common day and night—the common earth and waters,  
Your farm—your work, trade, occupation.  
The democratic wisdom underneath, like solid ground for all.  
—Walt Whitman.

### Maxims

What is the first business of one who studies philosophy? To part with self-conceit. For it is impossible for any one to begin to learn what he thinks he knows.

## New Social Problem

Unesco Publication

The presence of elderly people in ever greater proportion in many of the western countries is causing changes in forms of society and may require special patterns for future action in the social sciences. This view of the consequences of "aging", with medical and economic aspects of the problems, is set forth in the June issue of "Impact", scientific quarterly published by Unesco.

In the United Kingdom today approximately 14 per cent of the population are men over 65 and women over 60, and it is estimated that within 25 years the over-sixties in Great Britain and Sweden will constitute nearly one-third of the voting power. Professor R. E. Tunbridge points out in his article "Medical and Social Problems of Aging". The author is professor of medicine at the University of Leeds, England, and a leading gerontologist.

Similar increases in the proportion of elderly people are occurring in western continental Europe, in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand and among the white populations of Africa.

### ANCIENT CUSTOMS

Delving back into history, Professor Tunbridge cites a diversity of attitude on the place of elders in the society. Among the Indians of the Gran Chaco in Argentina the son's duty was to kill his father as soon as the elder was unable to keep up his tribe. On the other hand, the Spartans under Lycurgus's constitution formed one branch of the government, the Gerousia, exclusively of men over 60. And the Chinese revered old age, from the earliest days of their history.

Modern theories of the causes of aging—such as physical exhaustion, wear and tear, environmental stress, the accumulation of toxic substances, the breakdown of a metabolic cycle, the failure of a specific organ or organs—but finds that there remains "the difficulty of using any single test of function to assess what we mean by senescence".

As to the possibilities of "enabling man to live longer", Professor Tunbridge observes: "The advances in medical science have been effective against infectious diseases, particularly those affecting the young. The diseases of the second half of life—heart disease, renal disease, vascular degeneration, cancer—are usually insidious."

### ST. PATRICK'S BELL

A bell thought to have been used by St. Patrick is in the Irish National Museum.

### OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files  
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (July 19, 1931)  
Mr. John Manners of Boston, Mass., is spending a pleasant vacation in Summerside. Mr. Manners, who has traveled extensively in Canada, British Isles and the United States, finds no better spot than Prince Edward Island in which to spend a vacation.

According to figures of the assets and other sources of information, the population of Summerside has increased between 400 and 500 in the last two or three years.

### TEN YEARS AGO

A branch (No. 19) of the Canadian Legion B.E.S.L. was organized Monday evening at Cardigan by Major N.W. Lowther, assisted by Comrades Goodwin, MacNutt and Robinson.

The appointment of Major K.M. Johnston of Charlottetown as commanding officer of Headquarters Company, 5 Divisional Signals (Reserve) has been announced by Military Authorities at M.D. 6.

Lieutenant Governor Bernard had an interesting visit from Mr. Harry M. Donaldson, Counselor of the United States, who is stationed in St. John and whose territory includes Prince Edward Island.

## Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

### HERE'S HOW TO GET RID OF PESKY HOUSEFLIES

Get rid of houseflies. They're not only a nuisance, as you well know, but they may also be a real menace to your health. They often contaminate food and transmit diseases causing diarrhea.

The best way to eliminate them is to attack them at their breeding places.

### MULTIPLY READILY

By killing a few flies here, you may prevent the birth of thousands more. While the average life span of a female fly is only one month, she usually produces some 500 eggs during that time. You can see how readily they multiply.

Usually, you'll find their breeding places around garbage cans and any other decaying matter. You can help keep your garbage can free of flies by washing it out regularly, keeping it well repaired and keeping it tightly covered.

### SPRAYING IT WITH A FIVE PER CENT DDT SOLUTION WILL HELP, TOO.

This solution, incidentally, should also be sprayed under the porch and on porch ceilings. As a further precaution, you can brush it on the outside of window and door screens.

Occasionally, flies become resistant to DDT. If your DDT spray doesn't take them, try a solution of malathion for outdoor use.

Inside, you can use an aerosol bomb or, for a few strays, the old reliable fly swatter. The bombs not only kill houseflies, but generally get any other flying insects that might be about.

There's one disadvantage, though. The vapors dissipate readily and once they're gone, other flies and insects can enter the area without harm.

Don't use aerosol bombs containing DDT, lindane or chlordane in the kitchen or near food. And an insecticide advisable for use in your home as a space spray is pyrethrum.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER

M.G.: Does mixing alcoholic drinks increase the intoxicant effects of the alcohol?  
Answer: Contrary to popular belief, it does not.

Promiscuous sampling, however, may give rise to a greater consumption, just as eating a great variety of foods may lead to overeating.

### The Age Old Story

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

## NOTES BY THE WAY

It's a tough old world and there seems to be little likelihood of its in habitants escaping the necessity of work which, in the final analysis, is the real coinage.—Ed.

It has been found that some of those who decline to obey the rules for safety in order to save their lives, will obey to save their driving licenses.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

Ottawa has defeated a move to shorten the six-year period in which the Revenue Department can reopen old tax returns and boost tax assessments. Nevertheless there is a good deal of justice and common sense in the bill sponsored by David Fulton, the Conservative from Kamloops, to cut the Government's years of grace to three. After all, the Government should be able to decide in three years whether a taxpayer has made proper returns or not.—Vancouver Province.

If the housewife were forced to give up home appliances one by one, which would she retain to the last? Cornell University conducted a poll to find out. The ladies were asked what labor saving device in the house saved the most time. When the votes were counted, the home laundry and the vacuum cleaner finished in a tie, far ahead of all the rest. The washer should win in a runoff. Runners-up among the household gadgets saving time were the mixer, the range, the ironer and the pressure cooker. The husband willing to help his wife with the home work didn't even rate honorable mention.—Atlanta Constitution.

A Sudbury motorist says there were more slips between the cups and the lips.—Sudbury Daily.

According to statistics, girl babies learn to talk before boy babies. And when the boy babies have vanished into the tomb the girl babies are still at it.—Peterborough Examiner.

For years a dead set has been made on fathers in film, radio and T.V. fathers are pictured as lunkheads and morons who are saved from their follies only by the amused vigilance of their wives and families. The air waves and channels are deliberately populated with Chester A. Rileys who have to be brought in out of the rain by their long-suffering wives and bright children but who in some laughable fashion, earn weekly pay cheques that keep those same wives and children in adequate creature comforts.—Winnipeg Tribune.

A Belgian collector claims Canadian stamps are "among the worst," and we're inclined to agree with him as we study the interesting specimens on mail that comes to our desk from many countries the world over. As far as quality and design were concerned Canadian stamps enjoyed a good reputation years ago. Unfortunately they have slipped badly in recent years. The drawings are ugly, the reproduction of faces often defies recognition, and generally the issues of the last few years are uninteresting and unworthy of the Post Office Department.—Windsor Star.



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