

THE GUARDIAN

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President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, 1952

Dr. Smith's Warning

In his annual report as president of the University of Toronto, Dr. Sidney Smith calls attention to the alarming failure rate at the end of the first year. More than a third of the students enrolled in engineering either withdrew or failed the exams.

"This is shocking information," comments the Hamilton Spectator, "but there is nothing new about it. Nor is it fair to isolate our schools and universities as peculiar victims of a universal malady."

The ideal of achievement through toil has been displaced by a doctrine of the least possible work for the greatest immediate gain. In our economy it is disguised by inflation—by more cash tokens for inferior products.

As The Spectator says, to lower standards only makes the trouble worse. "There is a harsher and more exacting teacher than a university and a more brutal taskmaster. Life, with great patience and little mercy, finally demands its dues. And gets them."

In Case Of Attack

An enemy attack on any Canadian city in which preparations haven't reached the final phase—and there are none at the moment—would be a disaster of the first magnitude. As far as civil defence is concerned, Canadians are getting just about what they're paying for.

Summerside Town Clock

The Summerside town clock is stopped. The Charlottetown clock scarcely ever goes. We are not aware of the circumstances which make impossible their immediate repair.

manner and besides getting the information they want, they experience the same feeling of satisfaction as do citizens generally on checking their timepieces as they pass.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Britain is taking no chances of being surprised by air attack, and has re-erected its war air raid sirens in London.

Skating for health is nothing new, but has become fashionable. Sir Charles Dalton up to the end of his life enjoyed skating for skating's sake.

Milk in Ottawa sells retail at 22c per quart, and it is announced this will be advanced to 23c in April. By that time Lent will almost be over.

A U. N. truce negotiator reports that the U. N. and Communists are still 180 degrees apart on major issues—in line at last.

Now "means test" and blind pensioners are anxiously looking for their \$40 pensions from the Provincial Government to put them on the same footing as the seventy-year-old recipients.

A German socialist outbid a Soviet socialist for a Karl Marx letter to a publisher, paying \$660 for it. It was Germany that sold Communism to Russia in the first instance.

This in Toronto, too! A reader of The Printed Word whose office is about 100 feet from the desk where the item is written reports that his January copy was received January 10, 1952. It was mailed to him last year, December 31st.

The Agricultural Conference, which opens its fifth annual session today is a most useful meeting of experts, Dominion and Provincial, whose exchange of information is all to the good of agriculture in this Province.

There has been much said in favour of electoral reform by all political parties and various organizations. Now it is up to the Government to present a fair and workable alternative to the dual franchise for consideration by the Legislature.

Heroic rescues from fire are much more spectacular than making a practice of noting and removing the cause of possible outbreaks, but such simple alertness prevents life and property from being even endangered.

Power from peat is at length an accomplished fact. The first peat-burning gas turbine in the world is now running in the engineering shops of John Brown and Company, the famous Clydeside shipbuilders.

The new Governor-General, the Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, will reach Canada by steamer, then fly by air to his Ontario home, near Port Hope, for his first unofficial reception by relatives and friends before his inauguration at Ottawa.

The current issue of the lively monthly, The Postmark, is well up to the standard in contributions, illustrations and press-work. A feature is a two-page review of the post office for the previous year.

"In wars more boys tend to be born than girls," says Mr. Gordon Hutton, economist over BBC. "People used to think there was some mystery about that, as though God or Nature were replacing the men killed in war. The explanation is much simpler: in war-time there are younger marriages, and more of them; and young married women tend to produce more boys than older married women; in short, boys are easier to get in young marriages, whereas girls come at any time!"

Christopher Marlowe, English dramatist and poet, was born this date 1564. He found English drama crude and formless and left it a mighty force in English literature.

Weak Spot



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.

"OUR DOMINION"—AND WHY NOT?

Sir,—I have just been looking over a number of maps in a recent Oxford Press edition of the Bible, and I was particularly impressed with one of these maps described as a map of the Dominions of King David and Solomon.

What voters should now view with suspicion is the prospect of a plan for national health insurance. As a device for collecting the taxpayers' money and spreading it among deserving supporters of the party in power, it would be equivalent to many juicy contracts let, without tenders, by the Department of Public Works.

are those of the vast majority of electors in Prince Edward Island, and that our representatives in Parliament should voice these sentiments in no uncertain sound—quite irrespective of the political party to which each of them may belong.

Let it be observed too, that there is an euphonious quality in our word Dominion that would be sadly wanting in any substitute we can well imagine. This euphonious quality is especially agreeable when applied to our national holiday, July 1st, that is now proudly observed yearly from coast to coast.

I believe, Sir, that the sentiments expressed in this letter

Voters, Beware

(The Printed Word)

Rumors of an imminent general election continue to emanate from Ottawa, the breeding ground of rumors, and are more or less confirmed by further rumors of coming tax cuts and other measures designed to build up the popularity of the government.

The policy of "giving" a taxpayer something that he may not have asked for and may not want has some political advantages. Everything a government spends money on means more jobs and every job filled is counted on to tip down the vote of the job-holder.

omnic chaos of Great Britain will be labelled a reactionary or a destructive critic. The good work done by health and hospital plans in Saskatchewan and British Columbia will be played up, and the ever-increasing costs of the plans to the taxpayers of those Provinces will not be mentioned.

I am, Sir, etc. AN EX-TEACHER (Liberal Voter)

The Poet's Corner

CANADIAN APPLES

I bought a bag of apples in the town. Grown in Canadian orchards far away. And took them home and laid my purchase down. And then forgot them till the close of day.

—Lucio in the Manchester Guardian.

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Notes By The Way

Some of the lakes in the Dryden district are being cleaned out of all fish, which are predominantly pike, pickerel, lake trout and whitefish, the idea being to get rid of the whitefish which constitute about 60 percent, so that the game fish may have a better chance.

Joe Louis has turned from the prize ring to battle with racial prejudice, as exemplified in the present instance by the U. S. Professional Golfers' Association. The P. G. A. graciously invited Louis (a fine amateur golfer) to take part in a recent tournament, because he was obviously a good drawing card.

They say that when police were put on to the exiles of the South Bank site to prevent thieving during the building of the Festival one laborer was often stopped as he wheeled out a barrow of straw. Determined to run no risks, the police always thoroughly searched under the straw and found nothing.

On a party telephone out of North Bay, a subscriber formed the habit of taking down the receiver for hours at a time without doing any talking, thereby weakening the line and giving other subscribers the idea that somebody was continuously listening in.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

GRIM DISCOVERY

"On Wednesday last while several children were playing at the corner of Grafton and Rochford Streets, they discovered a human skull below the bridge, at the crossing. A number of thigh and other bones have also been found at the same place. The skull was brought to the Apothecaries Hall, where it may be seen."

The Age-Old Story

And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul. . . So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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