

# The Guardian

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## Let Us Be Thankful

We ought to be a little less inclined to grumble about the frequent rains which have accompanied the backward Spring in this region. Indeed, we should be thankful for them, considering the droughts which already this season have descended with burning fury on many parts of the world and to an uncomfortable extent on Western Canada. In Britain lack of rain is rapidly becoming an economic disaster. So far, there has been only a little more than 3 inches, the smallest amount since 1938. Potatoes and other Spring crops are suffering badly. Grass is drying out in the pastures. Some cities are already rationing precious water supplies. One reservoir with a capacity of almost a billion gallons is empty. Warnings have gone out to several industrial centres that unless extreme economy is practised, and the drought does not lessen, there will soon be no water for any purpose. A similar condition prevails over a large part of Western Europe. What would these people give for rain two or three times a week?

It is too early to say whether or not the dry conditions will spread to this part of the world; but certainly the possibility exists. Meanwhile, let us be thankful for the rains that have fallen so generously to water the soil and fill the wells. Too much is an inconvenience, but except when it develops into floods—which, thank God, do not often fall to our lot—is infinitely better than too little.

## A Neighbourly Gesture

Four young priests, natives of a Province which has supplied perhaps more than its statistical share of vocations for the propagation of the faith under the various Christian traditions, said their first solemn masses Sunday morning in their respective parish churches among their relatives and friends. To each one, and to his family, it was an occasion of joy and gladness. It was an occasion, too, of public interest, as evidenced by the goodly number of Christians of other traditions who were present to join with their Catholic neighbours in doing honour to the newly ordained priests—and, even more important, to join reverently in a solemn act of praise and thanksgiving.

There was a dark day in the past when this sort of neighbourly gesture on the highest plane of human relationships would hardly have been possible. So perhaps, despite the cleavages which hinder the Christian ethos from doing its maximum good in the world, there is a growing conviction that the things which divide Christian from Christian are not so strong and powerful as the things which unite them with cords of mutual respect and understanding. It is unlikely that the day will ever come when absolute uniformity in matters of religious dogma and ecclesiastical order will dominate Christian faith and practice. It may be that the more zealous proponents of the ecumenical idea are expecting and asking too much. It will be enough if men and women of different traditions, each group according to its historic convictions and interpretations, acknowledge freely with goodwill the strength and beauty and good faith of the other's heritage.

## Petulant Words

Secretary of State Dulles has done it again. For a seasoned, or at least experienced, diplomat it is amazing how often he allows his tongue to run ahead of his thinking. When the Egyptian Government announced its intention of granting de facto recognition to the Government of Communist China, thus following the example of Britain, he declared that the United States would do what it could towards helping Egypt retain its independence but would not "approve" of its doing anything that might promote the interests of the Communist powers. He added that it was "most unlikely" that the United States would now go ahead

with its plans to help build a dam on the Nile for Egypt's benefit. Isn't all this the height of folly? Almost anyone would say that a country's independence includes the right to make what treaties the government may think wise and necessary. No country is independent that has to obtain the consent of another power before formulating its foreign policy; as Premier Nasser will find out to his cost once he gets deeply involved in "friendship" treaties with the Soviet Union and its allies. If the Egyptians, after seeing what has happened to other satellites, are fools enough to sell their independence for Soviet protestations of friendship, it is certain that no outside pressure, short of war, will be able to save them from their foolishness.

If Mr. Dulles' petulant manner in this instance had the slightest chance of changing the Egyptian Government's policy, there would of course be some sense to it, although even then it would not tally with President Eisenhower's recent statement that from now on American foreign aid will not be based on political considerations. But it hasn't any such chance, as Mr. Dulles must know full well. Indeed, it is almost certain to drive Egypt and probably the other Arab states further and further under the domination of the Soviet Union; which, ostensibly at any rate, is precisely what Mr. Dulles does not want to come about. And, if the United States, out of pique with Premier Nasser, doesn't build the dam on the Nile the Russians will—and gladly.

## Why Not The Maritimes?

"Those Liberal members at Ottawa who represent Maritime constituencies," says the Toronto Globe and Mail, "must feel very uneasy about the lavish assistance the Government proposes to give Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited. Here is an American-owned company, set up for the purpose of supplying Alberta natural gas to Ontario and Quebec. To help it in doing that, Ottawa is prepared to lay out something like \$160,000,000. But when the Maritime Provinces ask Ottawa for help of a similar nature, it slams the door in their faces." It cites particularly the complaint of Mr. A. J. Brooks, Conservative member for Royal, New Brunswick, with regard to his Province's power project at Beechwood, which Ottawa declined in any way to assist.

This point is well taken. And as the Toronto paper points out, there is a simple method by which Ottawa can assist large-scale development projects in the "have-not" Provinces. Let it set up a fund of perhaps a billion dollars for this purpose. In some cases, the money would be loaned to Provincial Governments at low rates of interest; once paid back into the fund, it could be loaned all over again. In other cases (for example, highways and conservation works) repayment would not be required. The Dominion Government, taking the project concerned as a public service, would pay part of the cost in the form of an outright grant.

Political reasons alone, argues our Toronto contemporary, should compel Ottawa to move in this direction. But there are better ones. Assistance of this nature is worth while for its own sake. It would mean a wide use of natural resources. It would stimulate and broaden opportunities for private investment. It would mean higher revenues coming in to Ottawa—and fewer dolos going out. Most important of all, it would strengthen Confederation by narrowing the great difference in living standards between some parts of Canada and others.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

According to former President Truman who has been touring Italy, the largest Italian city in the world is New York, with its 3 million citizens of Italian extraction. Mr. Truman said he likes most of them—including, presumably, the few Republicans among them.

That secret urge in so many of us prompted a man in North Bergen, New Jersey, the other day to borrow a sledge hammer from a construction worker. With it he smashed a parking meter into bits and sped off on a motorcycle, saying "I've always wanted to do this." Witnesses of the scene claim they were so startled that they failed to note the culprit's registration number.



HOLIDAY ISLAND

## PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of any subject of general interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

### AGAINST FLUORIDATION

Sir.—Further discussion of Dr. F. S. K. MacMillan's answer to my letter appearing in your Public Forum, May 3, would lead me too far afield and would be of little interest to your readers. Significant however, of the attitude of proponents is Dr. MacMillan's remark that the "isolated cases of fluorine poisoning from Newburgh" (a woman who suffered severely) is inconsequential compared to the claims for safety being made by using mass statistics. This statistical study although published in the highly authoritative Journal of the American Medical Association is based on an unproven premise that if chronic kidney disease, advanced enough to be detected by urine examination, is not treated there can be no fluorine poisoning. A critique of this study has been presented to the Mayor of New York and was subsequently published in the Congressional Record dated Feb. 14, 1956 (Page A 1417).

My own studies indicate that there is a large but undiagnosed series of cases of chronic fluorine poisoning in every city where fluorides in drinking water or are artificially added. The results of this study will be made available to the profession in due time. However, even if there were one case, this in itself, should be sufficient reason to use safer methods of administering fluorides to children individually. There are at least a dozen methods, e.g. capsules, drops, bottled water containing fluorides, pills, lozenges, etc., for those who are convinced of its benefits, thus permitting freedom of choice.

I am, Sir, etc.,  
GEORGE L. WALDBOTT, M.D.  
Detroit, Mich.

### OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files  
25 YEARS AGO  
(May 29, 1931)

Joint winners of the Governor General's Medals at Acadia University this year are Miss E. McMillan and Donald C. Fraser. Miss McMillan belongs to Albertville, P.E.I., and received the award in Household Economics.

Last week a few catches of codfish were landed at one of the South shore wharves. The lobster fishing at this end of the Island at the present is very good, while we understand the north side catches are extra good.

Mr. Pierce Butler, Peter's Road, received a letter from a lady, Fall River, Mass., with the following: "I found the potatoes that you grew (marked) and can say they are the best potatoes I ever cooked. I was very surprised you got only \$9 a bushel, while I paid \$48 a peck."

TEN YEARS AGO  
(May 29, 1946)

Representatives of the various co-operatives Associations and Credit Unions throughout the Province gathered at the Charlottetown Hotel to honor Dr. J. T. Croteau, who is leaving shortly to make his home in Texas, U. S. A.

Mr. G. F. Ward, who came to the Province three and a half years ago as acting inspector of poultry marketing and production services, is leaving for Ottawa on Friday, where he will act as senior inspector for Eastern Ontario.

SELL TO U.S. FIRM

HAMILTON (CP)—Directors of Canadian Cannery Limited have approved sale of a two-third interest in the company to the California Packing Corporation. It was announced Monday. Each common share, of which there are 468,137 outstanding, will be split into one class A common share and two class B common shares.

## Britain's Bombers

By William Courtenay

Britain's next generation of Bombers will be in the 2,000 mph class and indeed must be if they are to be clothed with any prospect of evading the Interceptor of 1965. It will be ten years before they reach the Squadron of Empire Air Forces but already specifications of R.A.F. requirements have been studied by interested manufacturers.

Much design work has been done on various types which firms thought might suit the Royal Air Force. Some prepared drawings using 24 engines; others for aircraft constructed of steel, all of them produced ideas for "tail first" types, some designed Bombers with mere dits for vision and the crew totally enclosed for landings made entirely by instruments and control from the Control Tower.

This was to get over the problem of the "heat barrier" for the blasts of hot air which would reach the crew at such speeds might roast them. Peter Twist of the Fairey Aviation Co. remarked on this heat when he flew at over 1100 mph lately in the Fairey "Delta" and I recall watching a high speed runs at over 700 mph of the Supermarine "Swift" in Libya two years ago when a special refrigeration jacket was designed for the pilot by Farborough "boffins".

Thermal Barrier  
Thus the "sound barrier" encountered at speeds of 740 mph at sea level is already behind us, it is no longer the threshold of unexplored territory. Development is an rapid that we stand today on the threshold of the thermal barrier. Intense heat is experienced as aircraft approach speeds twice that of sound, due to friction being caused by passage of the air through the air. At tremendous speeds this gives rise to the case of meteors and shooting stars to disintegrate.

Thus the next generation of Bombers which Britain, America and Russia are all designing must not only be in the 2,000 mph class but count as modern and provide battle by 1965 but must provide means of refrigeration for crew and must be constructed of heat resisting materials. At 2,000 mph or even at 1,500 mph these problems of the "heat barrier" are being experienced.

## Jane Was First

Frederick Gleaser

If asked to choose the quotation from English literature which caused the most embarrassment to the most prominent, we'd be inclined to pick a sentence from Jane Austen's "Northanger Abbey," a work which its author completed in 1798, although it was not actually published until 1818.

Describing her heroine in the first chapter of the book as a bit of a tomboy, Miss Austen says of her: "It was not very wonderful that Catherine should prefer cricket, base ball, riding on horseback, and running about the country, at the age of fourteen, to books." We call attention to the words "base ball."

Now, the awkward thing about this seemingly innocent sentence is that, according to the authorized version of the history of the sport, the game—both the name and the game—were invented at Cooperstown, New York, in 1839 by one Abner Doubleday, who later became a general in the American Army.

It can be seen by a comparison of dates that the discovery of Miss Austen's description of her athletic young heroine is just about the most embarrassing thing that ever happened in the history of either literature or sport.

Attempts have been made to show that the game popular in 18th century England was something quite different from modern baseball, but the weight of research—the Encyclopaedia Britannica is quite definite upon the subject—has it that the game which Jane Austen has Catherine Morland played was, in all the main essentials of bat, ball and four bases, the same sport now played in Yankee Stadium, Ebbets Field and other well known places.

Too bad, Abner; Jane was there first!

## Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

### SHOULD PATIENT BE TOLD?

Would you want your doctor to tell you if you had cancer? Most patients would, according to a survey conducted by Dr. Otis R. Bowen of Bre. e., Indiana. Reporting on his survey in an issue of "Medical Times," he says 96.6 per cent of the 477 persons answering his detailed questionnaire said they desired to know the truth.

A greater percentage of those in the 18 to 35 age group than in the 66 to 90 group said they would want to know. "Anyway," Dr. Bowen concludes, "a doctor's seldom of a patient into believing he does not have cancer when he actually does, at least not for very long."

### MILK ALLERGY

Allergy to milk may be the cause of chronic rectal bleeding, according to two doctors in Bombay, India. Rectal bleeding of a 35-year-old woman was stopped, they report, when her diet was restricted to fruit juice and water. Whenever she was given milk, the hemorrhaging began again. Then they desensitized her by starting with a single drop of milk and gradually increasing the allowance by one drop per day, until she was finally able to take the necessary amount of milk without any untoward results.

Bothered by temporary night blindness while driving when you pass an oncoming car? Your trouble probably is due more to poor eye habits than to vitamin deficiency. Watching the right edge of the road, not the on-coming car, probably will help a great deal.

### SEVERE MYOPIA

Glasses, incidentally, can't correct all cases of myopia or nearsightedness. While they do take care of the vast majority of such cases, an operation sometimes is necessary in severe myopia.

Excessive length of the eyeball is the chief problem in nearsightedness. This operation which is rarely performed, shortens the length by cutting a segment around the entire periphery of the eyeball. Joining the two halves together reduces the length.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER

A. D.: Is it safe to use cornstarch instead of talcum powder for the baby?  
Answer: Yes, no harm can result and it works very well in certain instances.

### MOST POWERFUL JET

The world's most powerful jet engine—the De Havilland "Gyron"—may well form the power plant. Six or eight of these will provide thunderous power. In 4 years time when the first of such engines are required for the new Bombers, they will probably be developing up to 25,000 lbs of thrust power. (Russia is already using 18,000 lbs thrust jets as witnessed in her air liner which flew to London).

Refrigeration jackets resemble a coat built of pipes through which ice water circulates to cool the pilot of the supersonic fighter. The 2,000 mph Bomber must go further and refrigerate crew cockpit. Whether the newest Bombers flying at 2½ times the speed of sound will be delta winged or tail first types is still a guarded secret. But it is along these lines that designers are thinking and are tackling their tasks on the drawing boards.

It will be 1960 before the first of these futuristic designs—perhaps the last manned Bombers before the Guided Missile takes over completely—will be seen flying experimentally and 1965 before any Air Forces of any Powers can hope to form their first Squadrons. But it should not be later and Britain is clearly going to be in the van of this development.

## Stands Firm

(Vancouver Herald)

The Cabinet of a Canadian province cannot be labelled. A group of the last manned Bombers before the Guided Missile takes over completely will be seen flying experimentally and 1965 before any Air Forces of any Powers can hope to form their first Squadrons. But it should not be later and Britain is clearly going to be in the van of this development.

This followed an extraordinary sequence of events which revealed that Premier Joe Smallwood had twice stopped advertisements in the paper because of adverse criticism. The Evening Telegram rightly refused to consider altering its tone. What is more, the paper announces that it refuses to carry any more provincial advertising except in case of emergency, if

### RECAP STARTS BLAZE

ORILLIA, Ont. (CP)—defective recapped tire started a fire Monday which did \$800 damage to a tractor-trailer. The tire worked loose and started the fire which spread to the body of the truck. The driver was able to extinguish the blaze.

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## NOTES BY THE WAY

"Our language grows and expands," says a philologist. An example of this is the word "love" which, as pronounced by popular singers, has now expanded to about five syllables.—Edmonton Journal  
Some of the recent level crossing deaths have been at protected crossings. Not even gates, lights or bells will protect a driver determined to be careless.—Ottawa Journal  
The American customs now classifies our corn-on-the-cob as a vegetable, with an import duty of 25 per cent. But their corn-on-the-air pours in here duty free! How 'bout that.—Ottawa Citizen  
The money and effort spent in producing a graduate nurse never matters how, after graduation, she elects to utilize her training. Whether actively caring for the sick or managing a home and children, or serving as a school nurse or a company nurse, the community directly or indirectly profits from her skills and experience.—Ottawa Journal  
This month's award for mixed metaphors must go to Professor W.W. Rostow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a leading American expert on the USSR. Testifying before a U.S. Senate committee, on the present position in Russia, Professor Rostow stated that the Soviet government was faced with "the coming home to roost of certain chickens which they are still sitting on." Wondered if these unfortunate chickens were the same ones that were counted before they were hatched.—Edmonton Journal  
Today the fair sex finds welcome in many lines of endeavor, and finds welcome within the walls of many institutions, formerly considered the prerogative of the male of the species. There is one notable exception—the barber shop. We submit the proposition that while hair-dressing parlors are for women, barber shops are for men, and for men only. We do not suggest we speak here for all barbers, it may be that they welcome their female trade. But we are quite sure we do speak for the vast majority of male customers.—Brockville Recorder  
It is granted that the idea of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island becoming one province is purely academic now. There is no harm, however, in surmise. One imagines easily the contest for the location of the provincial capital if theory or speculation became fact. The temperature would be of a degree where no existing city would have a chance of acceptance. The capital would have to be an entirely new community on the New Brunswick-Nova Scotia boundary, a 50-50 proposition on the line, or in P.E.I., with the little fellow making peace between his larger neighbors.—Sydney Post Record

Harry Truman said in New York as he prepared to sail for Europe that many of today's American leaders seem to be "taken in by the smile on the face of the Kremlin." If so, we at least know what's taking them in. Still mysterious is what took in Harry at the Potsdam Conference. Reminiscing about it in 1948 in Ottawa, he said of Stalin: "I like old Joe—he's a decent fellow. But Joe is a prisoner of the Politburo. He can't do what he wants to."—Detroit Free Press

Newfoundland is attempting to persuade tent-dwelling Indians to move into small wooden houses. A \$90,000 estimate put before the Assembly is for that purpose. Most of the sum would be spent at the Labrador village of North West River where the Indians live in canvas tents across the river from the frame houses of the white inhabitants. It might be suggested that if the Indians prefer to live in tents, why not let them? Were they not living in wigwags and other primitive shelters for centuries before people of European race came to North America?—Sydney Post Record  
Most parents will heartily applaud the stand of five principals of Greater Victoria high schools against all-night unchaperoned "coming out" parties after the graduation ball. Nobody begrudges the teenagers their fun, but a curfew of 1 or 2 a.m. does not seem unreasonable. Even that late hour—the closing-time of the recent Royal Roads dance—has caused considerable anguish to Victoria parents, who have had to wait up until 3, 4 or even 5 o'clock in the morning for adolescent daughters who have gone on to the local jukebox boogie for post-party festivities. From the sheer health standpoint alone, the all-night graduation party is nonsense.—Winnipeg Tribune

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