

THE GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink

CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1951

The Government Returned

For the third successive time, Premier Jones has led his party to victory in a Provincial general election. The result, 25-5, means that it will have another large majority in the next Legislature...

Considering the weather and road conditions, the voting was heavy and the Conservatives, with the odds against them from the start, are to be congratulated upon their fighting spirit.

The Liberals, however, can afford to concede to their opponents all the honours of a well-fought fight. Their own strength, after sixteen years in power, is still undiminished.

The chief issue in the election, as defined by the Premier, was the Province's fiscal relations with the Dominion. Under the terms outlined by Ottawa at the December session of the Dominion-Provincial tax conference, this Province has been guaranteed a minimum of \$2,911,000 annually...

A Third Brigade

The prospect of a third Canadian brigade being formed to fulfil this country's commitment to provide a brigade for General Eisenhower's Atlantic Pact force in Europe brings recruiting policy into the limelight.

It is obvious that a force that can be used in Korea or Europe has much more strategic value than one recruited for a particular campaign. There is a further advantage in maintaining morale in having standard conditions of service so far as possible.

Anything which serves to make possible odious comparisons between one group and another within the Army, and indeed between any of the fighting services, is a potential source of weakness.

The aim should be defence forces enlisted under similar conditions of service and available for any call that may be made upon them.

Saying It With Flowers

Circumstances alter cases. Mr. C. A. Joyce, speaking in a BBC programme told this one: 'I don't know if you ever heard of two men who worked in the same office, and one afternoon one of them turned up with a large bunch of flowers. The other one said, 'Hello, who are these for?', and the first man said, 'Oh, they're for my wife,' and the other said, 'Oh, is it her birthday or the anniversary of your wedding or something?' 'No,' said the first man, 'I often take my wife a bunch of flowers. Don't you?' and the other one said, 'Don't be silly. I've been married twelve years.' 'Well now,' said the first one, 'Why don't you try it? I'm sure your wife would be delighted.' So on your wife would be delighted.'

home the second man bought his bunch of flowers and when he got home instead of walking straight into the house he rang the bell. His wife opened the door and he said, 'Hello darling, I thought I'd give you a little surprise tonight so I've brought you some flowers.' To his astonishment his wife burst into tears. 'Well now, what's the matter?' he said. 'Well,' said his wife, 'It's been a dreadful day. I've had a bad cold, at lunchtime I dropped the whole of the dinner things and now you've come home drunk.'

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is still unsafe counting one's chickens until they are hatched.

There will now be spare time for gardening and general tidying up—weather permitting.

The election is over but there remains the prospect of an early Federal by-election as a reminder of campaign promises.

After the campaign here had completed, Leader of the Opposition Drew made a masterly speech in the House of Commons against indirect taxes in the provinces.

Air Commodore R. C. Gordon, of Halifax, declares that the possibility of enemy troops being landed by air or submarine 'is far greater in Canada than in the United States.'

Mr. W. A. Johnston, K.C., of Winnipeg, whose appointment as director of the Bank of Canada has just been announced by Finance Minister Abbott, is a law partner of Justice Minister Stuart S. Garson. He will hold down the post until March 31, 1954.

Canadian National Railways took more Nova Scotia coal last year than in any year since 1947, it was shown in a parliamentary return. Deliveries of Nova Scotia coal to the C. N. R. totalled 1,108,133 tons, compared with 717,501 in 1949, 881,857 tons in 1948 and 415,293 tons in 1947.

The seals and sealskins have gone with the vanishing ice in the Strait and Gulf around our shores. Although small-scale sealing provided some compensation for the presence of the ice floes there will be little regret at its early conclusion.

Britain's adoption of the light weight .28 rifle to replace the .303 may have been influenced by experience in the Japanese campaigns where the enemy sometimes used paper bullets which were quite effective at short range and could be carried in much greater quantity by the foot soldier than could conventional small arms ammunition.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, American poet and philosopher, died this date 1882. A lifelong friend of Carlyle, Emerson edited the first American edition of 'Sartor Resartus' (1836). The same year he published first an important work, 'Nature.' He also published essays and poems. His style is so condensed as to be difficult for the casual reader.

His Majesty's nephew, the Earl of Harewood, is still suffering the consequences of extortionate succession duties. Last June the Earl sold 7,600 acres of his 24,000-acre ancestral estate for £256,000 (\$754,200) in order to pay inheritance taxes. Alas the young nephew of the King has put another 5,600 acres for sale. His reason: He needs the money to make ends meet.

Where our hard-earned money goes. At a cost of \$5,147.63 (says Montreal Gazette) the National Film Board has turned out an animated cartoon illustrating those intriguing old ballads: Camptown Races, Grandfather's Clock, Bury Me Not On The Lone Prairie, and Ta Ra Ra Boom De Ay. This cartoon has been exhibited in the U. S. without, however, drawing any revenue. It was produced to show, with informational films, to rural Canadian audiences. 'The primary purpose,' says a Government explanation, 'is to contribute toward a balanced program and to add interest.' Of course, not national debt interest.

Conspiracy between Ottawa and provincial governments, to amend the B. N. A. Act so as to allow provinces to impose indirect taxation, is arousing increased resentment from all groups of consumers as they begin to understand what it means. Resentment is not allayed by the fact that some provincial premiers have stated that they will not impose the tax. If they had the power, the temptation to use it might be too strong to resist in a year or two. Tacit admission by these premiers that the principle of the amendment is wrong, combined with statements that they will not impose it, because some other provinces seem to want it, can only appear as unworthy attempts to make good fellows of themselves at the expense of their taxpayers.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondence of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

Sir, — In the last sermon in The Guardian by His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan, he deplored the ignorance of the present generation in nearly every walk of life. Students seek to get training in such subjects as history, economics and sociology, but ignore the field of revealed religion. And I firmly believe that the higher branches of learning will lead a student into perplexities and problems that without religion can not be solved.

It certainly is an incomplete education that does not include a knowledge of Scripture. This knowledge may be of the head more than of the heart, still it has great value and should lead the way to a full surrender of the heart's affections to God.

It certainly is true, that if you ask a number of people to find the Book of Exodus or the Epistle to Timothy, three out of four will say 'Is it in the old or the new?' More than all this, there is a complacency goes with this condition. A person will tell you, 'We are not religious at our house', seemingly proud of the fact, or in a state of blissful ignorance. There are many people, claiming to 'have no time' for Bible study, but have plenty of time for the sport page. Athletics are good if one is a member of the team, but of very doubtful value to the onlooker.

We have now described the state of affairs as regards things that His Eminence calls, 'the basic tools of spirituality' or that Protestants simply speak of as 'the means of Grace'. So, what can we do about it? I would say — attack! and that at the most strategic point, the day school.

There are those who would discourage us by saying there is no need. These are they who are themselves perishing for lack of knowledge. Others admit the need, but say that we can't, simply can't.

'There is a lion in the way.' Or like the man in Scripture who said, 'I can't plow by reason of the cold.' But in harvest time he had no crop. Obstacles which they may turn out to be our greatest blessings. There is a way. More later.

I am, Sir, etc.

J. A. MACKENZIE

Kensington.

The Poet's Corner

MAGNA EST VERITAS

Here in this little Bay, Full of tumultuous life and great repose,

Where, twice a day, The purpled glad ocean comes and goes.

Under high cliffs, and far from the huge town, I sit me down.

For want of me the world's course will not fail;

When all its work is done, the lie shall rot;

The truth is great, and shall prevail,

When none cares whether it prevail or not.

—Coventry Patmore (1823-96).

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

POST OFFICE NEWS

'Thomas Owen, Esq., Post-master, Charlottetown, we are happy to be informed, received by the last English Mail his appointment of Deputy Post Master General for this Island. Mr. Owen also received instructions to appoint a Clerk in his office, to whom a liberal salary has been allowed. Our Post Office will, in future, be entirely independent of the Colonial Offices, and be under the control of the Post Master General in England.'

—The Islander, July 30, 1846.

Farm Revolution

(Winnipeg Free Press)

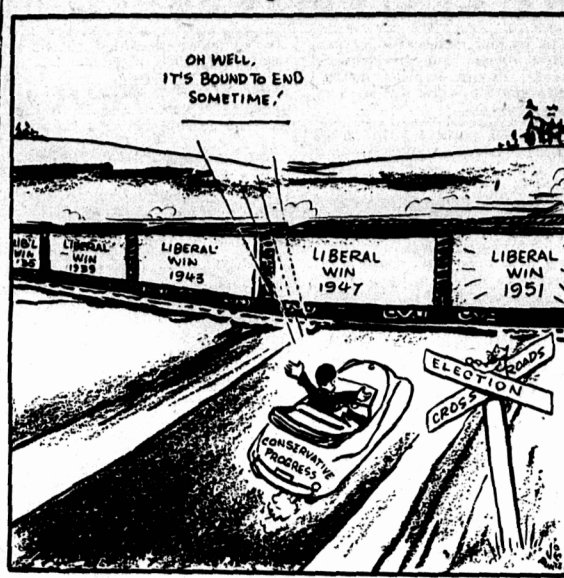
It is sometimes assumed that the great agricultural revolution carried through by the Soviets in Russia has no counterpart in the Western world. This of course is a complete misconception. Writing in Saturday Night, Mr. Wilfrid Eggleston cites some very interesting figures which in effect measure the pace of change on the North American continent.

Quoting Dr. Hopper, a well-known farm scientist formerly of Ottawa, Mr. Eggleston shows that in 1949, 10,800,000 agricultural workers in the United States produced about 40 per cent more products than did 11,700,000 workers in 1940. Farm output per hour of labor in agriculture exceeded the 1935-39 output by 51 per cent.

Mr. Eggleston puts the matter in another way. According to J. D. Bernal, as required in 1787, it would take 120 people on the land to support one city dweller. Prior to the Second World War, the same agricultural force would have supported 66 urbanites. With the growing efficiency of North American agriculture, Mr. Eggleston calculates that 19 persons on the land could today support 81 or more working in city areas. For Canada it is now estimated that the farm working force is about 18 to 20 per cent of the total labor force; in other words rather less than a fifth of our working people feed the country and produce a great export surplus. It is thus possible for the other four-fifths to supply all the other goods we require, including those requisite for national defence.

How has this great change come

Long Train



What Can Be Done About Inflation?

(Monthly Review of The Bank of Nova Scotia, March-April, 1951)

The fundamental attack against inflation should not be of an emergency character, in the sense of improvising temporary defences designed to hold the danger at bay, but of a continuing character which will adjust the economy to the new circumstances of preparedness, says the current Monthly Review of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

The Review, the first of two numbers on the subject of inflation, stresses that the present problem should be viewed against present conditions and objectives and that the experience of the last war is by no means entirely relevant to the fact of today.

For one thing, the western countries are not now planning a defence effort on a wartime scale. It is a preparedness effort which will absorb not more, and in most cases less, than one-sixth of the national energies of the countries concerned, and not a war effort which in some countries in the last war diverted as much as half of the national output.

For another, the character of a preparedness program is basically different from that of a war program. In war, the over-riding objective is to produce and organize the maximum of military power. Longer-run objectives must give place to immediate necessities for until victory is assured such objectives may have little meaning.

A preparedness program, in contrast, is concerned both with the immediate objective of developing military strength and with the longer-run objective of sustaining and developing basic economic strength. Moreover, a preparedness program may have to be sustained for a long time. Thus, to achieve existing defence targets at the cost of running down capital equipment or seriously retarding normal growth in the basic industries, as is unavoidable in war, would be short-sighted to say the least.

Similarly, to rely on inflationary policies in dealing with a continuing problem would be far more questionable than using such methods in war.

For these reasons, the Review states that the emphasis should be placed on the kind of anti-inflation policies with which we can live indefinitely and which do not upset any more than is necessary the normal functioning of the economic machinery. Emergency measures and temporary expedients, though they may be necessary to some degree, offer no satisfactory solution to the economic problems of a continuing defence program.

The Review observes that inflation has been hastened and aggravated by the public reaction to the prospect of large defence expenditures. The knowledge that the United States is preparing to spend something in excess of \$50 billions a year on defence and Canada somewhere between \$1.5 and \$2 billions has aroused expectations of rising prices, of shortages, and of strong markets, which have enlarged demands for a great variety of goods. Manufacturers and distributors have in many cases endeavoured to build up their inventories.

Partly by greater mechanization, Dr. Hopper reports that in the single decade 1940-50 the number of tractors on U. S. farms increased from 1,095,000 to 2,300,000 while that of combines and corn pickers tripled, with milking machines increasing four-fold. The coming agricultural census will provide data for measuring the similar advance in Canada.

By other factors, Mr. Eggleston mentions particularly rural electrification, better seed, more fertilizer, improvements in methods of breeding and feeding, soil conservation practices, better insecticides and fungicides.

The point is that a great technical and scientific revolution has been possible without resort to the drastic and callous methods which have been invoked by Communist rulers. There has been no uprooting of farmers, no herding of families into collectives, no famine or virtual civil war and very little in the way of government compulsion. Yet the results are those which the Russians cited to justify their campaign of ruthlessness: more mechanization, vastly greater production, the progressive extension of urban amenities to country life, more manpower released for secondary and tertiary production in the cities. The entire process has been so beneficially undramatic that most people are quite unaware of the magnitude of the change.

Done About Inflation?

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Notes By The Way

Krupps in Germany say they will make no more guns. How about trying butter for a change? (Hamilton Spectator.)

The hundreds of thousands of men over 65 and of women above 60 who today continue at work contribute greatly to production. They are better off for their tasks, and so are their families and the community. Organized labor's developing stand against needless retirements deserves recognition by management as an expression of public sentiment. The mechanisms of pension plans need to be subordinated to the higher considerations of human welfare. (From Christian Science Monitor.)

Farmers in most parts of Czechoslovakia are reported to be behind schedule in their Spring planting. Rude Pravo, central organ of the Czech Communist Party, attributed the delay to unfavorable weather in March, but urged local authorities to make sure there was no sabotage by peasant owners. Canadian farmers, too, are held up in seeding operations, but over here the blame is placed entirely on the weatherman. (Kitchener-Waterloo Record.)

A hard-headed farmer remembers that the same old wall that was covered with clematis in August, with bitter-sweet in October, can house a weasel all winter. Of all animals, big and little, that dwell on a farm, the weasel is the most ferociously predatory. A weasel, it has been said by his critics, will travel over a hundred acres any night in search of food. A weasel will kill for fun and eat anything juicier than a fence rail. A weasel is a foot-long aggressor who contradicts all hopes and arguments of pacifists. A weasel would have confirmed Hobbes in his belief that war is a continued state of nature. A serene and peaceful Emerson could write about nature being an 'old nurse' who took a man-child on her knee. Emerson, a farmer guesses, never knew much about weasels. Nobody, man or mouse, would ever want to sit on a weasel's knee. (New York Herald Tribune.)

It is not so long ago that 'Dollar Wheat' was the magic formula that promised to solve all Western problems. Now the magic formula is in the process of becoming 'Two Dollar Wheat.' The new formula appears at several points in the

Western farmers' unions' brief which was presented at Ottawa recently. The brief demands \$2 wheat in its recommendation of a special price policy for grain sold for consumption in Canada. It appears again in the discussion of the United Kingdom wheat agreement. The \$2 figure enters the discussion through the demand for a final payment of 25 cents a bushel on the wheat that went through the pool. Since the farmers had had about \$1.75 a bushel out of the pool, the proposed final payment would bring the price up to \$2 for grain sold over the last five years. (From Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.)

This is the season when one should breathe deeply and know the primal, heady fragrance of earth. There's an earthy, odd, satisfying aroma over the gardens, fields and meadows. It is a rich, elemental fragrance based on the fundamental life source. Take a handful of sun-warmed, friable garden soil and lift it to your nostrils. There is no fragrance like it in the pulsing rhythm of nature's complete year. Go to an open woodland and get down on humble knees. Push away the layer of sun-hot, brittle leaves and expose the black humus beneath. This is the primal stuff of earth's covering—pure organic material which assures man his food. Perhaps here in this very spot soil has been 'making' for hundreds of years as trees and foliage have fulfilled their life spans and returned their chemicals and salts to the soil. We appreciate that the fragrance of many flowers is very pleasant, but earth's basic fragrance is compounded of the very essence of life itself. (Ottawa Journal.)

FOR OVERSEAS BUYERS

LONDON — (CP) — To provide an insight into industrial activity in the United Kingdom, factory visits will be arranged for overseas buyers visiting the Festival of Britain. More than 300 firms are co-operating with the Council of Industrial Design in planning the visits.

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