

THE GUARDIAN

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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 TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 1953

The 23 Converts

It is easy to understand why the allied "explainers" are trying by every means at their command to persuade the handful of American soldiers and one Briton who have been converted to Communism to change their minds and return home.

At the same time many people are beginning to feel that matters have now reached the stage where further attempts at explanation would be a case of much ado about nothing or, at any rate, about very little.

Whom We Delight To Honour

The City of London gives distinguished men and women its freedom at ceremonies at the Guildhall, notes the Ottawa Journal, making a case for Ottawa to adopt a similar practice; and indeed there is merit in proposals to extend such courtesies to distinguished visitors and those who have rendered special services.

Prince Edward Island could well bestow such a distinction either on former Islanders who have carried the name of their native Province to the high places of the world or upon others who by their efforts have served the Island well.

These might specify that notwithstanding the recipient does not reside within these shores he shall be privileged to tell Islanders what he thinks of their politics either at election time or between elections and that anyone who tries to silence him shall do so at peril.

Steam Heated Highway

Boston appears to be leading the continent in experiments with newly developed melting equipment for roads and sidewalks. The city is building a 25 million dollar "aerial highway", which uses an elevated roadway to get through congested districts.

There are to be seven main access ramps leading up to the elevated highway in the central area of the city. Buried in the concrete paving of each ramp will be a maze of iron pipes, carrying anti-freeze liquid.

dry. Snow will melt as it falls and ice will be prevented from forming. The extent of the project is indicated by the fact that more than 200 tons of iron pipe will be installed.

Boston already has one of the longest heated sidewalks in the country, extending around a large insurance building. This melts winter's snows and drains off the water.

Speed And More Speed

That there will be no more announcements of air speed records from the United States is to be regretted. The reason given is the rather lame one that information of military value to the Communists might be revealed.

It means that whenever the world record for any particular type of aircraft is mentioned there will have to be the express or implied reservation that American figures are not available.

The Soviet Union imposed such secrecy on its aircraft and other industries and entered the Second World War far behind the other major powers. They have since made considerable progress by taking over a great deal of work done by German scientists and by acquiring designs and aircraft from other countries.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Like Scotsmen, postal workers look upon New Year's Eve, rather than Christmas as the time to celebrate. Not visions of sugar plums but mountains of mail danced in their heads during the earlier festivities.

Hectic as things were all over they were worse in Fredericton, N. B. The Gleaner reports that a customer placed snow-covered gloves on the counter of the stamp wicket and left a pool of water where stamps were being passed out.

For the first time more than fifty million passengers were carried by air in one year in 1953. Figures released by the International Civil Aviation Organization indicate that the rate of increase was slightly greater than the increase between 1952 and 1951.

The Attorney-General's campaign for a safe holiday was greatly assisted by perfect driving conditions over Christmas. Since then the situation has completely changed and it appears that New Year's Eve celebrants will have to cope with streets and highways in winter condition.

The increasing interest in the improvement of school properties noted by the Deputy Minister of Education is certainly not unconnected with the admission of women to school boards in recent years. Other factors have played a part in arousing public interest in the matter was probably the most effective influence.

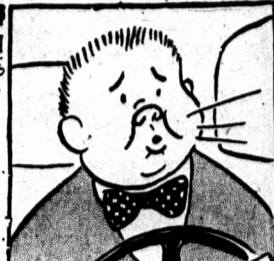
Sir William Osler, Canadian physician and humanist scholar, died this date 1919. A wanderer by nature, he held his first chair of medicine at McGill University, going from there to college in the United States and Britain. His famous "Principles and Practice of Medicine" was the most popular text book in the English language with several generations of medical students.

"Chad", the queer, war-time face that keeps appearing, peeping over a wall all over the world, much like Kilroy, has been something of a mystery. The picture was invariably accompanied by some remark like, "Wot? No leave?" and was a pungent commentary on the current beefs of troops and civilians. It seems, according to a Scottish historian, that the old 90th regiment, the Scottish Rifles or Cameronians had an officer called Furdorf, who was bald; a brother officer took to drawing caricatures of him. It became the custom for the regiment to draw this little picture on all buildings captured in India from the mutineers.

Saturday Night Sports



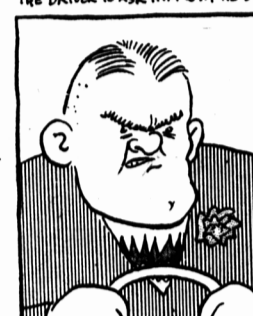
QUIZMO Q. KARSHAM FINDS OUT FOR READERS WHAT IS BACK OF THE "FIFTY TIMES 'ROUND DIZZY BLOK GROUP WHICH IS CAUSING CONCERN TO THE CITY FATHERS, ONE SATURDAY NIGHT, AS A CAR MADE ITS FIFTEEN TURN HE STOPPED THE DRIVER TO ASK HIM WHY HE DID IT."



'CRUSHER' PINKNEY: "I'm ready to stop now. I went around fifty times whistling all the time. Not one pick-up!"



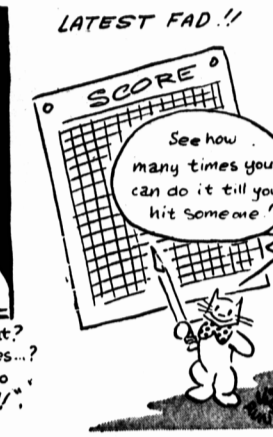
HUGO HAMBONE: "Somebody told me it was the smart thing to do.... isn't it?"



'HAPPY' DALE: "Oh, a sorehead, eh? Can't bear to see anyone have a little innocent fun? Take that (★ crash) and that (★) and that!! (★ ★ ★)"



SOUSELEIGH BLOTMORE: "W-what? I circled this block fifty times...? No wonder it's taking me so long to get to Looneyview...!!"



LATEST FAD!! See how many times you can do it till you hit someone!

The Poet's Corner

THE FAIR CIRCASSIAN Forty Vizards saw I go Up to the Seraglio, Burning, each and every man, For the fair Circassian.

Ere the morn had disappeared, Every Vizard wore a beard; Ere the afternoon was born, Every Vizard came back shorn.

"Let the man that woos to win Woo with an unholy chin." Thus she said, and as she bid Each devoted Vizard did.

From the beards a cord she made, Loop'd it to the balustrade, Glided down and went away To her own Circassia.

When the Sultan heard, wax'd he Somewhat wroth, and presently In the noose themselves did lend Every Vizard did suspend.

Sages all, this rhyme who read, Guard your beards with prudent heed, And beware the wily plans Of the fair Circassians.

—Richard Garnett.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ORWELL SETTLEMENT

It is believed that the first settlers on the Orwell River were the Macdonalds and John Currie, all of whom took up land on the north bank. They were soon followed, in 1818, by the Macdonalds from Scotchfort, who had received their grant several years earlier.

On their way to their new home they blazed a trail from Head of Vernon River through Uigg to Orwell cross-roads, thereby establishing the course of the present Uigg road. Others soon followed, and when in 1821 the whole territory from Orwell bridge to Kinross was taken up by the MacLeods, Macdonalds and Rosses, the district had definitely emerged from the forest stage.

Farmers came from miles around to cut the marsh grass along the river with scythes. They built a "stanch" on upright posts above the high water mark, and there they built their stacks. In the winter, when the marsh was frozen over, they hauled these stacks to their barns, where it was, for the early years of the settlement, the chief winter food for their cattle.

In the primeval forest a clearing was soon made. Margaret MacLeod (Peggy Neil) recalls the original dwelling house then built near the river on the north bank. It was a long, low, comfortable house of several rooms. Between it and the river was planted an orchard of cherry, plum, and apple trees. Later, in this house, modern wallpaper was used for the first time in the district, being then a great curiosity. For many years the family lived on this site. After the milling business went down a home was built by a son, Peter, to the west of the road near the site of the present bridge, and beside a spring that still pours out its cooling waters.

Notes By The Way

A judge says some wives are affectionate only when they want spending money. Isn't that often enough? —St. Thomas Times-Journal

Just about the time you accumulate a really impressive collection of lights and gewgaws for the Christmas tree, the kids marry and start buying trees of their own. —Hamilton Spectator

The news that Canadian air lines carried 1,548,237 passengers on scheduled flights last year, with only one fatality—a pilot—should make the motorists feel ashamed of themselves. It is getting to be a lot safer up in the air than down on the highway. —Vancouver Province

A friend of ours who recently visited Ireland swears he saw this notice in a railway station there: "When trains moving in an opposite direction are approaching each other on separate lines, drivers and guards will bring their respective trains to a dead halt before meeting and will not proceed until each train has passed the other." —Saturday Night

Do modern city dwellers marry neighborhood sweethearts? J. R. Marches of the University of Maryland and Gus Turbeville of the University of Minnesota recently examined the marriage statistics in the city of Duluth and reported their findings in the American Journal of Sociology. Analyzing 300 marriage licenses, they found that 56.7 per cent of the couples lived at the same address, twenty per cent lived within five blocks of each other, forty-two per cent lived within twenty blocks. —Scientific American

Instead of standing with supine lethargy before the pressure of "trashy" reading material (and we want to be sure what we mean when we call it "trashy") there is a crying challenge to approach it constructively and with some sense of balance. Censorship can check, and should check, salacious and corrupting literature, but it can't eliminate "trash" nor guide children to the best antidote of all—good books. —Hamilton Spectator

The news was correct in stating the Queen would arrive in New Zealand on Wednesday, December 28. Exactly that happened. There was, however, a catch to it in our sense of timing. When the steamship Gothic bearing Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh, sailed into Auckland harbour it still was Tuesday here. In crossing the Pacific Ocean, in sailing beyond the equator, the royal party crossed the international date line, an invisible but

arbitrary demarcation that divides tomorrow from today. It is something we too often forget about in figuring out the time of occurrences in world news. Tomorrow is continually dawning at some place on the round world. The new day begins at sunrise in one's awakening concept yet everyone knows that the new day by the calendar begins immediately following the stroke of midnight. —Sydney Post-Record

The North's Eskimos could easily become the next generation's wealthy cattle ranchers. All that is needed to transform them from wards of the government to a well-to-do people is proper establishment of the reindeer industry. Opposition members at Ottawa have urged the government to increase reindeer herds on the reserve near Aklavik. Resources Minister Lesage said there are now only 7771 reindeer in Canada's Northland. Vancouver's Howard Green quoted from an article stating the area could support 40 million. Forty million of 'em is a lot of meat, and there'd surely be some for export from the north to Canadian cities. Then there might be two snowmobiles in every Eskimo igloo, and a gold-plated radar to match it. —Vancouver Sun

Problems of acceptable teen-age behavior which have been plaguing parents and teachers alike, are getting constructive attention all across the country now. From Washington, D. C., comes news of the distribution of a set of "Guiding Principles" by the Association of Independent Schools to help parents co-ordinate regulations for their ebullient young folk. The nine-point code proposes: Week-end and holiday social activity only, ending at reasonable hours, agreed to by parents and teen-agers; parents available during entertaining; no "party crashing"; parents to know where their children are visiting; no "parties after parties," prompt acceptance or rejection of invitations; no alcohol; consideration and courteous driving to be enforced. Representatives of students themselves played a major part in setting the standards, which prove once more that young people in general only need some direction to their path. —Christian Science Monitor

The Age Old Story

Fear not, little Jack; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

TO OUR MANY POLICY-HOLDERS throughout the Province and beyond, we extend the Season's Greetings and best wishes for Happiness, Peace and Prosperity in the New Year. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. The Oldest Insurance Agency in Prince Edward Island Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN - SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE

The Passing Scene

By Observer

MID-CENTURY HUMOR

What did people find to laugh about in Christmas week 1853? Well, those who lived in the larger cities, and could afford it, probably went to vaudeville or a burlesque show with about a fifty-fifty chance of hearing or seeing something really funny. (People who make a business of tracing the influence of humour say that the moving picture a year is the average; there is no reason to suppose that the rating for 1853 comedy was any better.)

For most people all the time and for all people most of the time the family magazine was the dispenser of humour. We happen to have in our library a copy of a fashionable periodical published exactly 100 years ago. A monthly, it contains 100 pages of very small print, as was the fashion in those days. Four of these pages are devoted entirely to jokes, funny sketches, and riddles, all of which, according to the editor, had been taken from the "best" fairly representative of mid-19th century humour. For today's column I have selected a few specimens at random. I must confess that for my part I can see very little to provoke laughter in any of them but, then, I don't laugh too easily anyway.

A certain aristocratic lady won't take a newspaper because it's made of rags. To cure the toothache let an omnibus run over your foot. When may two persons be said to be half-witted? When they have an understanding between them. "What do you propose to take for your cold?" said an old lady to a sneezing gentleman. "O, I'll sell it very cheap," he replied, "I won't haggle about the price at all."

An English paper states: "Yankee steamers are so light that they can jump over a bar, float easily on the grass, and are obliged to lie at anchor when there is a heavy dew!" An ignorant minister having remarked in the presence of Dr. South that "the Lord had no need of man's learning," that noted divine replied, "still less has He need of man's ignorance." The times are said to be hard in Halifax, N. S., that the two editors of the papers published there smoke the same cigar, taking it by turns.

"I've risen from the bar to the bench." That is what a lawyer said on quitting the profession and taking up shoe-making. "Your's is a hard case," said Lawyer Fox to his client Mr. Oyster. "Doctor, what do you think is the cause of this frequent rush of blood to my head?" "O, it is nothing but an effort of nature who, as you know, abhors a vacuum." A lot of fellows, teasing a large fat companion remarked that if all flesh was grass he must be a load of hay. "I suspect I am," he said, "from the way the asses are nibbling at me." A newspaper editor desired to show his knowledge of musical terms of refer-

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