

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 2, 1952

The Uphill Road

In his New Year's greetings to Guardian readers published on Monday, Premier Jones expressed but one particular wish. That was that everyone would "work harder in the year to come than in the one which is going," thereby insuring great benefits to themselves and to the Province as a whole.

On the same day, notes the Globe and Mail, a despatch from London reported that celebrations had begun of a holiday that for thousands would last until December 31.

"The plain fact is that the British people cannot afford to take this leisurely attitude toward their work," says our Toronto contemporary. "Neither can the Canadian people. Our problems are not quite so bad as theirs. We are not, like them, on the verge of bankruptcy."

"It is typical not only of Britain, not only of North America, but of the whole free world, that while statesmen call for more 'sacrifices', the people call for more leisure. We have been told—and it is true—that security demands something better than 'business as usual.' But today, we haven't even that. Not for years has business been 'as usual.' There are thousands now working, or at any rate employed, who do not know what the expression means. And if they did, they would certainly resent it."

"We have come to the point where people will seize on any excuse to stop working. Mr. John L. Lewis is reported to be so angry about the Illinois coal mine disaster that he is thinking of calling a ten-day work stoppage in every mine in the United States. Will that make any mine safer? Will it console any widow or orphan? The only people who will benefit are the coal miners themselves, if, that is, they can afford to lose ten days' pay. It might be better if they worked the ten days—and gave the money to the bereaved families. They could use it. And the nation could use the coal."

"The major task facing us today is to build the economic and military strength of the North Atlantic partners to the point where no aggressor will dare to strike. That cannot be done at our present level of productivity. Neither can that level of productivity provide the social security, and the rising standard of living, which most people demand. If we continue to take life easy today, of a certainty we shall find it hard tomorrow."

Highway Warnings

The number of fatal highway accidents reported across Canada during the recent holidays brings forcibly to mind the toll which the automobile exacts in human lives. We have been comparatively fortunate in this Province, yet even here, during the past few years, the number of such fatalities has been steadily increasing. It is surprising, too, how many fatal accidents have occurred at the same places or in close proximity. A correspondent suggests in this connection that signs might be erected in such places by the Department of Highways, as a perpetual warning to other drivers. The signs would have to be such as to attract attention both in the daytime and at night. It is suggested that even the most irresponsible persons would for a fleeting second become aware that at this spot a human life had been suddenly snuffed out.

Unfortunately the familiarity which breeds contempt, and which is responsible for so much careless handling of fast-moving vehicles on the highways, might also in the end defeat the purpose of the most carefully planned system of warnings. The signs would require to be infrequent to attract the attention of those most in need

of such admonition. They might indeed prove serviceable if erected at certain particularly bad turns or crossings, where numerous accidents have occurred. The cost of erection, as our correspondent suggests, is a minor matter; if it meant the prevention of even one accident, the saving of even one life, it would be quite justifiable.

The question of highway accident prevention has become of tremendous importance in every Province. Would it not be possible to work out a nation-wide system of effective danger signals, based on the one factor which has heretofore been neglected. That is the psychology of the reckless driver. Ordinary appeals to common sense or even personal safety appear to be ignored. The problem has been studied for years by road experts, but without much success. Perhaps it is time to call in the psychiatrists, in the granting of auto licences.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Though the "going" was not so good as it might have been, there were large numbers of first-footers on the road yesterday.

The first working day of the New Year, in which the Premier advises us to work more and produce more, the secret of happiness and well-being.

Most Christmas trees were discarded with the coming of the New Year but many dried out relics remain to be an ever increasing danger of fire.

The cost of coal in Britain went up again Tuesday. Obviously the fact that it is owned and produced by the National Coal Board was no guarantee of low prices.

The Army is preparing to run qualifying courses here for officers and NCO's. Promotion is hard earned when it means work and study after regular civilian working hours.

It was sure to happen. The Government of Alberta has decided to continue its old age pension at \$50 instead of \$40, authorized by Federal enactment. The additional \$10 is provided by the Provincial Government.

Anxious politicians with claims at their credit are waiting with the best patience they can summon up, the announcement of Prime Minister St. Laurent's next honours list, which should include a delayed senatorship for Premier Jones.

The C. N. R. is going on apace. It has placed an order in Montreal for 49 new diesel electric locomotives at a cost of \$8,000,000, 24 being long distance freighters. This will make their outfit 342 units, a third of which will be used on the roads.

James Wolfe, English soldier, was born this date 1727. He assisted in crushing the rebellion in support of the Young Pretender and in the Seven Years' War had charge of Britain's operations in America under Amherst. He took Louisbourg in 1758 and Quebec the following year.

The late Mr. Charles A. Beer was one of Charlottetown's finest citizens, and his death at a comparatively early age is a reminder of the toll which war takes even of those who survive to resume their civilian occupations. Mr. Beer served with the 8th Siege Battery in the First World War, and undoubtedly the hardships he endured overseas had an effect upon his health in later years. As Manager of the Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters and Provincial Fire Marshal in succession to his father, the late Mr. E. H. Beer, he proved a most competent and conscientious official. He did excellent work in charge of A.R.P. fire services in the Province during the Second World War. He was well known as a sportsman and also took active part in community affairs. Sincere sympathy is extended to his bereaved widow and family in their grievous loss.

At the beginning of the year we should, as a Province, reflect and count our blessings of the year that has gone. We are not over-populous by any means, having just as many people as an average large city on the mainland, but we are really prosperous and progressive. We have no unduly rich people, neither miserably poor, all having enough, if not too much, to live upon. We have fine people of good stock, who flourish and replenish the earth with brains elsewhere if not always at home. Successful Islanders abroad are beyond number, while among those here we have outstanding citizens upholding high and worthily the reputation of the Province. Our climate, Summer, Fall and Winter, is unsurpassed in Canada, though we must admit our Spring is on the backward side. Taken altogether, life in this Province in the year that has departed has been perhaps better than that in any other province of Canada. "For which the Lord be thanked" as Robert Burns put it in his "Selkirk Grace".

Let's Hope There's A Happy Ending



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.

CANINE DISTEMPER

Sir.— There is more or less of an outbreak of canine distemper among dogs throughout the Province. These animals can of course be inoculated for this disease. Spraying is prohibited at present. There is also an outbreak of canine distemper among cats. As a matter of fact it is in the form of Infectious Agranulocytosis and Feline Enteritis. Animals die in four to five days. They can be inoculated. These animals (cats) should be allowed to pursue their normal life at home. They should not be permitted to bite children. Some authorities claim they carry certain childhood diseases. Cats cover all sorts of environment in their wanderings. They are therefore open to all types of infection. Normal treatment in the home is satisfactory. They are the normal destroyers of rats and mice and other abnormal matter. The matter has no interest to myself. I simply suggest it due to the fact that the public should be informed. I have discovered this as a result of my small animal practice. I am, Sir, etc., E. S. NOTTING, D.V.M. Charlottetown.

THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP

Sir.— Now that the delegation of three have arrived home from Ottawa and it is stated they have made possible the elevation of Premier Jones to the House of Senate, we must accept their knowledge of this matter as greater than ours, and their ability to present such a case superior to any other group which could have been sent to accomplish such a mission. Might it not be well for us Liberals to take a look around and set our house in order, that we may decide how we as an independent and free people are going to choose our next leader? The Liberal Association of Queen's County have gone on record (twice) that they shall refuse to recognize any individual chosen in any other manner than at an open Provincial convention. The West Prince Liberal Association are on record as being in support of a Provincial Convention called for the purpose of choosing a new leader. When not so long ago a former Premier about to retire endeavored to name his successor, the present Premier was the individual who shouted to high heaven and kicked up quite a fuss. The result of his action was a postponement of the matter for a period of two weeks in order to give every one of the caucus (Liberal members of the House) an opportunity to give some thought to the matter. During this two-week period much horse trading was indulged in with the result that at least one who could not very conveniently go back upon a former decision or promise, was very fortunately sick upon the date of the final decision. The result: Jones carried the leadership by one vote over the late Horace Wright. Are we Liberals to be treated to another such "fiasco" and have every one of the present Liberal members working for further advancement for themselves, giving no thought to the welfare of the party, by horse trading jobs for support of leader aspirants? Or are we on the other hand going to have some one shoved upon us, some one we might not want, might not even support under any consideration except by final decision of an open convention? Or are we going to have that open convention called and every district within this Province, yes every poll within this Province, have a voice in the important decision as to whom our next leader shall be? An open convention is the fair way.

The Liberals while in Opposition are the greatest strategists to be found anywhere, but while in Gov-

The Age-Old Story

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain. . . O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

When Drew left the premiership in Ontario to go to Ottawa, he named as his successor Col. Kennedy, then Minister of Agriculture, but the Conservative followers said "No. We are going to do the choosing upon such an important matter as this," and they demanded an open convention and secured it. With the result that Mr. Frost, the present Premier, secured the nod from the delegates. We all know what was the result of the first election contested by Frost. Almost a clean sweep for the Tories. Are we going to allow the Premier to name his successor to the Lieutenant Governor, or even have the Liberal members of the House decide and then have the Premier suggest him to the Lieutenant Governor, or are we going to have the opportunity to pronounce upon that most important matter ourselves?

If we allow someone other than those attending an open convention called for the purpose to make a decision for us, then we might as well fold up as a party and hand over the reins of government to Rex. Bell. Such action will split our party wide open and at the next election we shall be swamped. But give us the opportunity to attend an open convention called for the purpose of choosing a new leader, where we can meet and speak with all aspirants and vote according to our best judgment and thereby eliminate all horse trading which will undoubtedly take place when such an important matter, a matter of this magnitude, is settled otherwise. I am, Sir, etc., FAIRPLAY.

TO THE RESCUE

Sir.— A few weeks ago we read in these columns a letter from a former Islander who, though born in England had kept in his heart a warm affection for our Island Province and its people, having spent a few years here on a P.E. Island farm with the intention of really making agriculture his life work.

Still, man proposes but God disposes, and before maybe two years he felt that the Divine call was for him to leave the plow and milking stool, think along lines of high learning, apply for entrance to Wycliffe College from which he was ordained later an Anglican clergyman. His first appointment was to the diocese of Peace River, Alberta. There he went with his bride of a few weeks in 1914. In a few short years of service there, which he calls enjoyable, but which others would call very strenuous, he was ordered east by the doctors to recover from double pneumonia and pleurisy. He held four different parishes in the Maritimes and one in Toronto. But at present he is retired on account of a serious heart condition. This ailment, according to a specialist, will terminate fatally before five years at the longest. What has brought this on? My answer would be, always ambitious and being inclined to work up to and beyond his strength. He feared nothing that was difficult. To give the heart a chance, we need to lay worry aside. It is hard to do in his case as his wife, on account of a broken hip from a fall that happened seven years ago, is in a crippled condition. To make matters worse, due to this woman's

The Poet's Corner

Now in the West the slender moon lies low, And now Orion glimmers through the trees, Clearing the earth with even pace and slow; And now the stately-moving Pleiades, In that soft infinite darkness overhead Hang jewel-wise upon a silver thread. And all the lonelier stars that have their place, Calm lamps within the distant southern sky, And planet-dust upon the edge of space, Look down upon the fretful world. And I Look up to outer vastness unafraid, And see the stars which sang when earth was made. —Marjorie Pickthall.

I've months stay in a Toronto hospital, plebitis developed and as a result her entire left leg below the knee is ulcered. Being unable to keep a nurse or even a part-time housemaid, he must dress and attend in a personal way himself to this ulcered region that refuses to heal.

Having known this man intimately and so favorably in the long ago, I at once, on seeing his letter in The Guardian, and he mentioning poor health, got busy and dropped him a Christmas letter. In his reply among other things, he asked for our prayers for himself and wife in their distress.

"That will not do much good." Another said. "It might help a little." Think a minute. What is the will of God regarding them? Does he wish us to have good health or poor health? Is he a God of war or of peace? Read the psalms and learn that He hates war. He maketh iniquity to cease. He breaketh the bow. He cutteth the spear asunder. He burneth the chariot in the fire.

What is His attitude to sickness of body? We should notice that when here among men He healed every one in both body and soul. In fact it is through our souls that the bodily healing comes. Christ is a great heart specialist. I saw a woman prostrate with a heart condition during the last war. She had four sons in the armed forces. We asked her if she would like to be prayed for that evening at such an hour. She agreed. Soon we met her husband who when asked about her, replied, "Why! she is up and working!" This is what is called the "expulsive power of a new affection."

A certain religious journal once organized among its readers a "League of the Golden Pen" whose members agreed to consecrate their pens to Christ's service. A good idea would be for each one among all who care to take ten minutes out, for the helping of those of whom the Son of Man will say, "I was sick and in prison and ye came unto Me". Write a long letter if you wish or one of six words. "We are praying for you both." Use Imagination. Make a mental picture of them both perfectly cured. The cure may be gradual or sudden. It may come through the treatment now being employed, or through the efforts of another specialist. Read James, 1st Chapter, about asking in faith and not wavering. Although material help has not been asked, it would be very suitable when we think of the very

Notes By The Way

In the days when a man shaved with a straight razor, drank his coffee from a mustache cup marked "Father" and administered the strap to recalcitrant offspring, no one questioned his position as head of the family. When he was angry, the house shook, his wife trembled and his children quaked in their high button boots. But today, practically the only area where father is glorified by our culture is in "bringing home the bacon." — Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

The carpet which Queen Mary made in order to earn dollars for Britain has brought in 119,651 dollars 86 cents net. The Dowager Lady Reading, chairman of the WVS, who organized the exhibition and sale of the carpet in U. S. and Canada has sent a cheque for 35,354 pounds, 16 s. to the Prime Minister, who has passed it to the Exchequer. Mr. Churchill has written to Queen Mary expressing to her the thanks of the Cabinet and the nation. The carpet, sold in Canada to the Daughters of the Empire, is now in the National Museum in Ottawa. — London Daily Mail.

Having noted the number of accidents caused by .22 rifles in the hands of young people, the Farm and Ranch Review made a suggestion that the weapon should be licensed in Alberta — practically every letter writer disagreeing with the opinion. As an answer to those protests the Review noted in the November issue, even the editorial was written, an even 20 Albertans have lost their lives in .22 accidents. The caption over the note reads, "Any comment?" — Fort William Times-Journal.

To most people, Christmas and New Year's mean enjoyable holidays, free from ordinary labors. But there are many who must stay on their jobs, and of these some are busier during the holiday season than they are normally. Many policemen and firemen have to be on the job for the protection of the public. Those engaged in the transportation industry, on railways, bus and air lines, have a hectic time of it indeed. And, though they had a day off, those in the postal employment certainly were entitled to it after the strenuous week which preceded Christmas. Special mention must be made of works department employees and highway

large sums that must have been spent for medical treatment. These people are the very salt of the earth. The writer knew one from her childhood days, the other as short of silver and gold as St. Peter was at the gate of the temple where he made the lame to walk. Those who are wise enough to buy up such an opportunity as this, may write to: Florence and Basil Colclough M.A., Box 250, Newmarket, Ontario. I am, Sir, etc., ARCH MacKENZIE, 30, 1878.

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