

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1951

Our Daily Truck Service

When the Post Office increased The Guardian postage rate by 166.6 per cent (a newspaper over 10,000 circulation) and the newsprint companies increased their price to \$124 per ton—an all-time high—it meant that our rural readers would have to pay \$12 per annum. This we felt was an unfair imposition and we immediately set in motion an agitation for relief. This met with sympathy and support in all responsible directions, but got us nowhere nevertheless.

We then undertook to organize our own delivery service by means of trucks, and had the assurance of the Postmaster General and his Deputy that if we provided an efficient service, The Guardian would receive a contract to carry the mails in addition to The Guardian. Our delivery service was organized to cover the whole Island, and our contract for His Majesty's mails was to become effective on September 1st. For reasons of internal concern, the Post Office was not in a position to start operation on that date, and it was decided to make a beginning with the mail contract on October 1st.

Meantime, the Railway which hitherto had stood in the way of a morning service to eastern and southern King's, decided that such a service was not only desirable but necessary. It was a reflection on the Railway administration that a private firm could cover the Island daily for the convenience of its patrons whereas a national organization had failed to do so. In consequence the C. N. R. decided to enter the truck field, and approached The Guardian to take over the Post Office contract and to carry The Guardian at no greater cost than would its own truck service. This appealed to The Guardian, as it would be infinitely easier for a transportation organization to run an efficient truck service; and so negotiations have been concluded between the two organizations for the Railway to take over The Guardian's contract with the Post Office. This arrangement will go into effect on October 1st, or as soon as the Railway and Post Office can arrange to start the service. The Guardian will continue to fill the breach until the Railway service becomes practicable.

In making this announcement, The Guardian wishes to add its appreciation of all the efforts made by innumerable friends on its behalf at this critical juncture, including the Postmaster General, Deputy Postmaster General, Director of Communications, the President of the Canadian National Railways, Mr. F. A. Gaffney, Chief of Transport Research, Premier J. Walter Jones and the Provincial Government, and a host of others too numerous to mention. It has been a long hard fight to get an Island-length morning daily post service, but its realization is the best reward for our joint endeavours.

A Good Example

Highly creditable to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics is the fact that it has managed to eliminate about 60 reports from the approximately 500 reports it has been publishing, thus affecting a saving of about \$100,000 a year to Canadian taxpayers.

In other departments as well, the field of Government publications is one which offers an enticing prospect of possible economies. During the current year the printing of departmental reports and other publications will cost \$6,174,309. This figure does not include the salaries of the various civil servants and publicity agents engaged in the work.

The Dominion Government is currently building a printing plant which, it is estimated, will cost in the neighbourhood of \$13,000,000. One of the reasons for erecting this giant plant was undoubtedly the large volume of printing demanded by various departments and agencies for their reports and handbooks.

The Senate finance committee which investigated government spending some months ago was disturbed by the volume of official reports and publicity. Members questioned the value of many of the reports that were being sent out by government departments. Senator John T. Haig said: "I may be different from other people but these reports keep coming to my desk, and to be quite honest, I never read them and I do not know any one else who reads them. I wonder why they come out. As it is

pages and pages of reports reach my desk every day and they end up in the waste-paper basket. . . I try to send some of these things to my friends in Winnipeg, but I am losing my friends. I venture to say it is because I suggest they read through reports such as these."

Members of the committee suggested that one method of curbing the enthusiasm of government departments for sending out reports and publicity materials would be to require them to pay postage on these materials out of department estimates. As it is now, government offices in Ottawa can send publicity of this sort through the mails free. Consequently showering the country with reports has no effect on their estimates. The change suggested by committee members, while only a matter of book-keeping would have a salutary effect and might well be adopted. But the real economies in reports and publicity must be made by the departments themselves. They should follow the example set by the Bureau of Statistics.

EDITORIAL NOTES

With practically 90 per cent of our potato acreage certified free from disease we should have comparatively little difficulty in marketing this year's production.

Mr. William (Bill) Boss, CP correspondent with the U. N. forces in Korea, says the hearts of the United Forces are not in the war. How could they in a war carried on merely on a five-day-a-week basis?

Transportation and power are probably the most essential services to promote the development of a district or Province. The improved service being commenced by the C. N. R. here means another long step forward.

In connection with the Battle of Britain anniversary, 200 jet fighter planes accompanied by 80 piston-engined aircraft will stage a spectacular air parade over London.

The Printed Word advises as follows how to avoid some taxes: Don't smoke. Don't drink alcohol. Don't drink soft drinks. Don't use gasoline. Don't buy a cook stove. Don't buy a refrigerator. Don't live. Don't die.

British mountain climbing experts are making a new attempt to scale Mount Everest this month. Eric Shipton, leader of the expedition, says the party hopes to start their climb by the 20th, allowing six weeks of good weather after the Monsoon and before the winter blizzards begin.

Sir James Jeans, English mathematician, was born this date 1877. One of his first scientific investigations was that resulting in the proof of Maxwell's law governing the distribution of velocities among molecules. In 1914 he made a report on the Quantum theory but his most impressive work was in the field of cosmogony. His scientific writings enjoyed high popularity.

A popular dietitian speaker over BBC declared a lot of rubbish is spoken about diet. "I attended (he said) one lecture on the spirituality of food, if you please. The lecturer was saying, 'Chicken makes you chicken-hearted—beef makes you a bully'. And at that point a member of the audience called to him, 'What do you eat?' His answer was 'Nuts'."

Members of Parliament—and other visitors to Ottawa will note with some degree of satisfaction that one of Parliament Hill's pagoda-like landmarks, behind the Central Block, overlooking the Ottawa River, is being rejuvenated. Countless tourists have carved or written their names or initials in its seats, walls and timbers. Countless persons, from Sir Wilfrid Laurier on, have stood in or near it to admire a magnificent view. It survived the great fire which destroyed the Centre Block in 1916. But last session members of the Commons called it an eyesore and orders went out for changes. For this year, it will be torn down to the level of the seats and painted in time for the Royal visit. Next year it will get a new roof.

Good news for smokers. It was reported to the American Chemical Society in New York on Friday that there are "four B vitamins in your smokes, whether cigars, cigars or pipe. You get some of these vitamins into your system when you inhale. And probably in lesser amounts when you don't." The tobacco B-vitamins are thiamine, or B-1, supposedly good for nerves, nicotinic acid, riboflavin which has some good effects on skin, and pantothenic acid. The latter was thought years ago to be a possible antidote for grey hair, but it failed. Nicotinic acid is the most abundant. These vitamins were reported on by Dr. E. O. Jensen, of the Department of Agricultural and Biological Chemistry, Pennsylvania State College.

Evidently The Wish Of The People



The Colombo Plan

(By B. P. Kirithisinghe)

The Colombo Plan represents a revolutionary conception for the betterment of South-East Asia, which includes the territories of India, Pakistan, Burma, Malaya and Ceylon, by co-operative international action of the free world. Its purpose is to regenerate the backward economies of these nations by giving them financial and technical assistance, thereby providing opportunities for raising the living standards of the peoples of these lands.

The month of July is a memorable one in the history of the Colombo Plan. Though the plan officially began on 1 December, 1950 with the establishment of the Council of Technical Co-operation in S. E. Asia, action with regard to technical assistance was initiated as early as July 1950, barely seven months after the conception of the Plan at the Commonwealth Ministers' meeting on foreign affairs held in Colombo in January 1950, where Rt. Hon. Mr. Lester Pearson, late Mr. Bevin, Pundit Nehru were among the foreign ministers present at this memorable conference. And now the economic development program of the Plan officially commenced on the 1st of July, 1951.

Though the co-ordinated program of development was planned by the Commonwealth of Nations in consultation, it is by no means limited to the Commonwealth, for other countries with interests in that part of the World have been invited to participate in the Plan.

This Plan presents a tremendous opportunity for development and a tremendous need. Over 570 million people live in this area, most of them depending on the land for a living but due to their inability to get the best out of the land they remain under-nourished, uneducated, unskilled and improperly housed.

This represents a challenge which must be met if this strategically and economically valuable region is not to be lost to communism with its insidious appeal to the hungry, the poverty-stricken and discontented.

The task which faces the Colombo Plan countries is far more formidable than that which confronted war-torn Europe. The problem was real and urgent especially as the pressure of a growing population was throwing an increasing burden on the already slender resources. Since the Commonwealth countries had the greatest stake they decided to take the initiative.

The Plan provides for a great expansion of agriculture and industrial production to meet the population needs of this vast area. It emphasizes that power and machines are the key to plenty on the land; factories to make implements and fertilizers; machines to till the soil; dams to provide water for irrigation and to control floods. The peoples of South-East Asia must have more of these things, if they are to win their fight against poverty.

Development, as envisaged in the Colombo Plan, is primarily in the sphere of agriculture as the people of the S. E. Asian countries are predominantly peasant farmers. However the limitations of land for agricultural pursuit had made it necessary for the planning of a certain amount of industrial development in order that a better balance may be maintained between industry and agriculture and productive employment found for some of the many millions who are at present under employed on the land.

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.

SERVICE APPRECIATED

Sir, I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the splendid delivery service you are now providing. This is in marked contrast to the treatment we get here in Tignish from the Provincial Government which stopped the pavement five miles from Tignish over ten years ago and continue to ignore our requests for help.

We are Sir, etc, MYRICK, MCINTOSH LTD. Tignish, Sept. 8, 1951.

million (\$250 million of which are releases of sterling balances); Australia 25 million pounds; Canada 25 million dollars. New Zealand has promised to make a substantial contribution. These are not ceiling offers and there is always the possibility of further financial assistance from these S. E. Asian countries will also provide part of the financial assistance required for their own development schemes.

It was always recognized that these sources would not provide all the money required. However this gap may now be filled since the United States—a source of so much encouragement to the free world—is now a full member of the Consultative Committee and arrangements have been made to associate the International Bank with this Plan.

In S. E. Asia there is an acute shortage of Experts of all kinds, particularly engineers and agricultural specialists. To tackle this aspect of the question the Council of Technical Co-operation was inaugurated on December 1, 1950, with its headquarters in Colombo. To date an appreciable volume of technical assistance has flowed to India, Pakistan and Ceylon in particular and has taken two forms (a) provision of overseas training for technicians, and (b) loans of technical experts from abroad.

True, the immediate results will not be spectacular. It is a question rather at this stage of laying sound foundations for a steady but gradual improvement which must be spread over many years. The undertaking, nonetheless, offers real hope of economic progress and marks a turning point in the chequered history of South East Asia.

BIG LAKE

Largest lake in Central Europe is Lake Balaton in Hungary, with an area of 286 square miles.

Old Charlottetown

(And F. E. L.)

FIRST FULLING MILL

"On Saturday last, the Committee of the Agricultural Society awarded George Dalrymple, Esq., £10, as a premium for erecting a fulling mill—being the first on the Island." —Royal Gazette, Aug. 2, 1831. (In early days it required the service of many hands to thicken or full the cloth, after the wool had been washed, teased, carded, spun and woven, before the tailor could manufacture it into clothing. This operation was performed at thickening frolics, in which the whole community participated. A detailed description of such a frolic was quoted in this column some time ago, from an article by the late Senator Ferguson. The Senator indeed wrote indignantly about "the sacrilegious fulling-mill," which put an end to this oldtime combination of chore and entertainment. A second fulling mill was established in 1833 at Augustine Cove by Mr. Peter Devoy, who also received a bonus of £10 from the Agricultural Society for his enterprise.)

The Age-Old Story

And God spake all these words, saying I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

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YOUR POSSESSIONS

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Notes By The Way

It was in the news that Gold Coast natives ate a French senator, and a Congo tribe ate a tax collector. Every man to his own taste. But in the latter case, we presume, they played it safe by first removing the tax.—(Ottawa Citizen).

A Buffalo judge who summured in Eastern Canada went home with a yarn about catching 143 bass in the first week, and the Brantford Expositor wonders if he knew that the legal limit for seven days is only 42. But why bring that up? It's good for luring tourists. Can't a judge fib about fishing, same as anyone else?—(Ottawa Citizen).

Fifteen years ago the Olympic Games were held in Berlin, and Jesse Owens, the great American runner, made history by winning four gold medals. Adolf Hitler attended most of the sessions hoping to see his Aryan Germans take most of the awards, and when a German or another white man won a gold medal and had a laurel wreath placed on his brow, the German Chancellor shook hands with him. But he refused to shake hands with Jesse Owens, the greatest of them all. He is a Negro. A few days ago Jesse Owens returned to Berlin and to the field where he had achieved fame. About 75,000 people, nearly all Germans attending national athletic events, cheered loudly when Owens was made to stand on a dais and acting Mayor Walter Schreiber shook hands with him—did more in fact, gave him both hands in a cordial grip.—(St. Thomas Times-Journal).

The Poet's Corner

FROM "THE PATHFINDERS" Peace to the dust of the conquerors, Envoys of mystery From Newfoundland to Singapore, From the Pecos to Tasmania, From the peaks of Florida to the Alaskan tundras! Peace to all who slept at the trail-ends, From the blood of Marquette and Cartier To the flown breath of Scott and Shackleton! They that felt the arrows of Ob-sidian Have no more need of shield or helmet. They that saw the smoke of strange altars on new heavens Shall hear no more the conchs of the barbarian, Nor the long trumpets of ivory, Nor the throbbing of the war-drums. Peace to all who lie famed or forgotten— The last igloo built, The last keel stranded, Peace to the renowned few, to the innumerable unknown. To the tomb of bronze and the grave in the desert; They are hushed who dared Lev-athan And the dragons of Hesperia. The frontiers of wonder are dissolved, The purple kingdoms of the old mirage. Laif Ericson sleeps, and the fire that was Columbus, But Time has new Atlantics. The stars they followed sail so over; Their voices are on the wind from the Northeast, And their flags in the sunset. —George Stirling.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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