

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest link"

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30, 1953

Earlier Voting

Premier Bennett of British Columbia believes when they come out of the schools and colleges, that young people are responsible enough to vote.

Proposals to lower the voting age, says the Ottawa Citizen, have popular appeal in a time when it is youth that flies the jet planes, youth on which the armed services heavily depend.

On the other hand, technical skill is not necessarily accompanied by social judgment. Great numbers of teen-aged youth understand little as yet of the burdens of workers and taxpayers.

In simpler times, when adulthood was assumed sooner, 21 was fixed as the legal age for attaining one's majority.

"Miscarriage Of Justice"

On September 17 the Federal Government, by order-in-council, dismissed the appeal of the eight provincial Governments against the order of the Transport Board, on March 6, last, granting the railways a horizontal percentage increase in freight rates of 7 per cent.

"The order-in-council which runs to less than 400 words, including the legal jargon in which such documents must necessarily be couched," says our Winnipeg contemporary, "indicates that the Government regarded this appeal as trivial."

The background to this appeal is as follows: Last January, the Railway Association, under plea of emergent need, applied for a 7 per cent horizontal percentage increase in rates.

"Despite the opposition of the eight provincial Governments, the Transport Board, on March 6, granted the 7 per cent

increase. The appeal to the Federal Government from the judgment of the Board followed. The hearing took place on May 1 but the Government postponed its decision until September 17.

"In the view of the eight provincial Governments the increase in rates was wholly unwarranted. The provinces asked that the Federal Government instruct the Transport Board to rescind it and to undertake at once an investigation to show the economies that can and should be made in railway expenditures without any sacrifice in efficiency and the savings which are being reaped as a result of the use of new equipment like diesel engines.

"It is futile for the Federal Government blandly to say, as it does in order-in-council 1457, that it has 'carefully considered' the facts and is unable to find that the Transport Board has 'erred'.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Reports of vandalism in the city are a serious matter for property owners and even more so for parents. Too many youngsters are abroad too late for their own good or that of the community.

A substantial increase in the fishery revenue of this Province in 1952 over the previous year is confirmed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. From comparative prices and catch reports it looks as if 1953 will show an even greater increase.

The Summerside branch of the Canadian Legion is to be congratulated on being able to burn the mortgage on their two-year-old Legion Home. In being thankful for the achievement, the Legionnaires might also give thanks for the mortgage which stimulated them to outstanding effort.

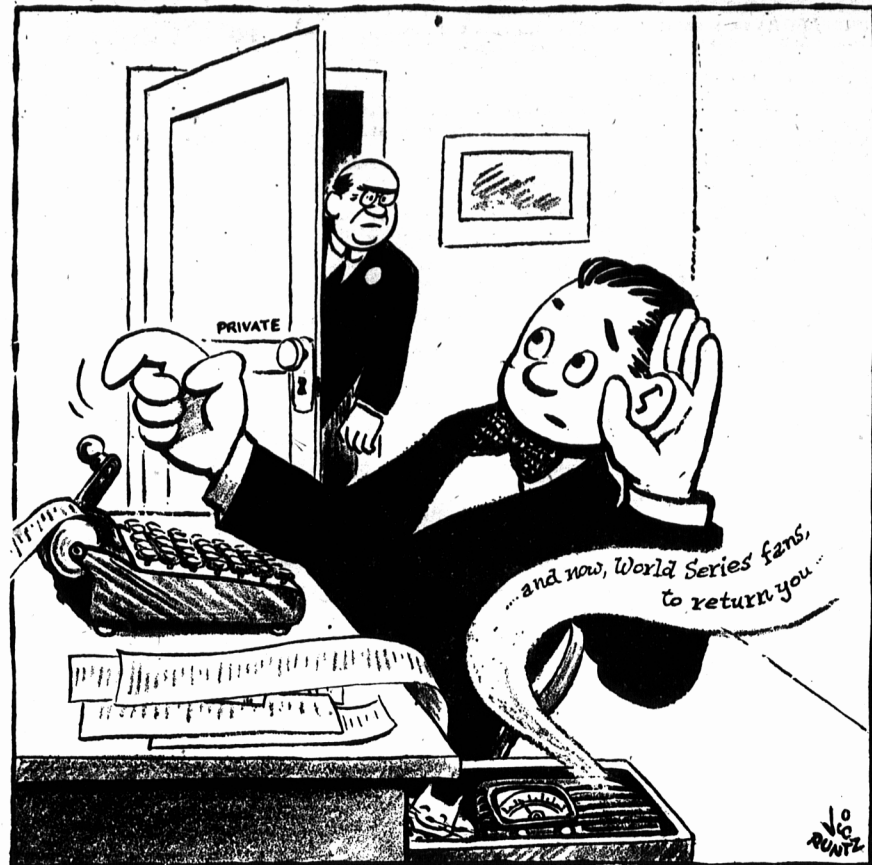
The reputation of women drivers has suffered as a result of a survey conducted in the New England and four other States. More than 60 per cent of women drivers flouted words of warning given by law-enforcing agents. It was found that 53 per cent of the speeders were women, although it is not stated how their total number compared with men.

The president of the University of Toronto, Dr. Sidney Smith, is concerned at the lack of a critical spirit that can stand up against all the dreary platitudes and paid insanities that assail us. He considers that Canada could easily support some more "characters". It is understandable that living in Toronto would give such an impression but the learned Nova Scotian born president must be aware that not all Canadians are as standardized as the Toronto product.

"What's the matter with good old 'broke'?" asks the Ottawa Journal, entering the discussion on the lack of a suitable word to adequately describe being without funds. "Pound-short" and the American expression "strapped" had been previously suggested. There is a difference, of course. "Broke" implies not a mere shortage of ready cash but ruin. "Short of funds" expresses the idea as does the banker's "non-liquid position". It would seem that further suggestions for a single word are still in order.

Pierre Corneille, great French tragic dramatist and precursor of Moliere in comedy, died this date 1684. He was born and trained for the bar at Rouen but came to Paris at the age of 23 and produced a series of successful comedies. For a time he was one of the five who produced plays on plots supplied by Richelieu. Later he produced "Medee", and the "Cid", the latter taking Paris by storm. It was classical in form and the drama changed from the external world to the heart. He produced many other great dramas before his powers began to fail and is regarded as the creator of French tragic drama.

At Times It's A Little Hard To Concentrate



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.

GUIDES AND BROWNIES

Sir—The recent visit to our Province of the World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell, has resulted in a renewed enthusiasm in the Girl Guide movement among our Brownies, Guides and leaders.

This non-sectarian world-wide movement is one in which our girls are taught principles of their religion, patriotism, loyalty, honesty and efficiency.

Our girls desire to join this movement. We need leaders. We need helpers. Can our next generation of adults afford to be left without the opportunities this movement provides? What presents a greater challenge to us than working with our girls?

Lady Baden-Powell feels that our Guides and Brownies are eager and well-trained. She feels our leaders are capable and interested, but we need more.

I am, Sir, etc., AMIE F. HUTCHESON, Provincial Commissioner, Charlottetown.

The Poet's Corner

IRIS RETICULATA

Stranger from the Asian land. Long in English garden grown. Now you love our Western strand.

Blooming in the white walled ward. Pansy face and violet scent. In a slender silver shard. Lovely with the daffodils. A garden's joy through you is lent.

Tiny bulb with network ring. Planted in the Autumn's wane. Soft, your velvet petals bring. A healing peace to human pain.

—Ellen Scrimger, in the Montreal Gazette.

Health Before Politics

(W.L. Clark in the Windsor Star) In health matters Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan, Conservative Premier of Prince Edward Island, says political parties should not consider partisan politics. Instead, the good of all comes first.

This question of health concerns everyone in Canada, both rich and poor, young and old. Sickness comes to all sooner or later. And, all want to have the best possible attention.

GOOD DEED

CORNWALL, Ont. (CP)—Cornwall boys scouts collected 32 tons of waste paper in their latest drive, the largest amount since such collections started in this district. Nine troops carried out the operation.

The Palace Of Nestor

New York Times

The scene of last summer's delving by an American and Greek force of archaeologists is Homer's "sandy Pylos" on the west coast of the Peloponnese.

In the last glimpse we have of Nestor he is presiding over a sacrificial feast in his palace. He sits on "polished stones which were before his lofty doors" where Neleus, his father, was wont to sit. His sons and daughters and his sons' wives are gathered about him. Telemachus joins them and the crew of his ship. They have a glorious feast.

Then Nestor orders the horses yoked to a car that is to carry Odysseus to Lacedaemon. "Then Telemachus mounted the beautiful car and Peisistratus, son of Nestor, a leader of men, mounted beside him and took the reins in his hands. He touched the horses with the whip to start them on their way, and the steep citadel of Pylos."

It is to this citadel that attention is again turned after three thousand years.

The Age Old Story

And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, and said, O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

The pony express, travelling nearly 2,000 miles between California and St. Joseph, Mo., started in 1860.

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AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

Notes By The Way

The city of Niagara Falls has started an anti-noise campaign. To begin, no doubt, by putting a muffler on the Falls—Edmonton Journal.

Pretty soon it will be October—a month all dressed up in fancy colours and with no place to go but November—Hamilton Spectator.

The news agencies' grading of aircraft these days is somewhat like the canners' grading of olives used to be—the smallest size were "large," and above that came "jumbo," "giant" and, for all we know "titanic." In recent days we have seen a Dakota referred to as "big," a North Star as "huge," and a B-50 as "giant." If a Star is "huge," what is a Stratocruiser, which dwarfs it? And if the B-50 is "giant," what is the considerably bigger B-36?—Hamilton Spectator.

It is reported that there was considerable trumpeting, prancing and flapping of ears when two elephants were born in the Addo Park. Addo Park is in the heart of the oldest civilized area of the Union of South Africa, the Cape Province. There was for a long time a danger that the Addo elephants would die out, but today there is a vigorous population distributed in the herd: two bulls, nine cows and nine calves. When the first of the two new arrivals was born, there was great excitement among the herd; the elders gathered round the mother and baby caressing the youngster with the tips of their trunks. But a few days later, Park Ranger Armstrong was concerned when only the herd, with the new mother, came down to the feeding enclosure at sunset for their ration of oranges. The next day he learned the reason: the other body had been born and half the herd remained with the expectant mother.—Lighted on the Dark Continent.

If it is necessary to move freshmen university students in Canada back as far as Grade 8 studies in order to bring them up to the basic level of the first year of college, then there is something very wrong with the pre-university training which Canadian boys and girls are receiving. An English professor at the University of British Columbia says that he and his colleagues feel particularly those engaged in the instruction of English, that the universities are taking over the teaching which should have been done in elementary and high schools. Between sixty-five and seventy-five per cent of high school graduates who go to the University of British Columbia cannot read, write or think properly.—St. John Telegraph Journal.

Since the discovery of rich mineral deposits in Gloucester County the Town of Bathurst has become a centre of much activity. It has assumed some of the characteristics of a "boom town" of the old gold rush days although there is a feeling of permanence about the growth and expansion of Bathurst that was wholly lacking in the earlier days in the development of this country. It is worth noting that the civic government of Bathurst is alert to the sudden demands for services which the mining activity has brought to the town and are doing something about it. In the Town Council's determination to keep abreast of the growth and expansion which Bathurst is certain to enjoy for some years to come, plans already have been made for the extension of the public services. The eyes of the mining world are upon Bathurst and it will be the hope of all that it will become one of the leading cities in the east. Plans are already being considered for a new harbor which will be required to handle the volume of traffic attendant upon a thriving mining centre.—Moncton Transcript.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FIRST MILL IN BELFAST

The mills were among the most important factors ministering to the comfort of the early settlers. Each favorable stream had one or more. The first mill in Belfast was built by Lord Selkirk on the Pinetree River near the church. Various parties operated it until finally, in 1839, John Douse sold it to Alexander Dixon, a miller from Bowport, Northumberland, England, whose grandson, John Dixon, owns and operates it today in keeping with the fine tradition handed down through succeeding generations of that worthy family.

"Oatmeal was ground in it for several years before the first wheat flour was made. In addition to the grist and saw-mill originally built, both carding and shingle mills were added at an early date. Prior to the installation of the carding mill, probably by Mr. Dixon, wool was carded in the settlers' homes by small wooden cards studded with iron bristles. Holding the handle of the card, which was about five by eight or ten inches, in each hand, the wool was pulled and rolled into the required form for spinning."

—From "Skye Pioneers and The Island," (1929) by Malcolm A. Macqueen.

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