

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1950

The Big Fair

Everything is now in readiness for the Diamond Jubilee of our Provincial Exhibition and Old Home Week, and the official opening on Monday evening by Premier Jones will mark the start of what is confidently predicted to be the most largely attended, the most interesting and most successful programme of its kind ever held in the Maritimes.

The Association's extensive plant has undergone changes which will surprise and delight the thousands of visitors. Cattle exhibitors will be particularly pleased with the spacious new barns which have been erected this year, and many other improvements to the track and grounds will be noted.

Record livestock entries are reported, and the handicraft exhibits will be superior to anything seen here in recent years. Over 200 horses will compete in the five days and nights of harness racing which will be an outstanding feature of the big Fair, exceeding anything heretofore attempted in this part of Canada. The vaudeville, midway and other attractions will also be up to a high standard.

Every year the Provincial Exhibition draws an increasing number of visitors from abroad. Primarily, however, it is for our own people and it is to be hoped that this year the attendance from all parts of the Island will also establish a new record. The Exhibition not only provides unrivalled facilities for entertainment and competition—it is a great educator as well. Its main purpose now, as in the past, is to promote the agricultural interests of the Province; and our farmers who fail to take advantage of this opportunity, for themselves and their families, are missing something of inestimable value.

Royal Birth

This is an age of contrasts, although it is certainly not unique in that. One of the most striking is that the world can take time out from a bitter struggle between rival civilizations to await in anxious hope the birth of a child. It is not, as perhaps in an earlier day, that the strength of the Royal line is vital to the political stability of the land.

We know that the occupant of the throne can change without causing much more than a ripple to disturb the ship of state. Nevertheless countless people in lands far asunder, even many owing no allegiance to the British Crown, feel a personal interest in and rejoice with the Royal mother.

Frank Advice

Fisheries Minister Mayhew is credited by the Canadian Press with the following somewhat fatuous statement: "We are not at war. We want the public to carry on as usual. Every man in his job" should be the slogan. We don't want everyone running to shelter because of the war scare."

"Every man to his job", comments the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal), "is a good slogan. Every man from Cabinet Ministers downward will have to be on the job if the task ahead of the nation is to be carried through. However, when Mr. Mayhew says that the Government wants the public to carry on as usual he will be taken to mean, rightly or wrongly, that the nation can carry on as usual. This is the one thing the nation cannot do and remain safe."

"The Government's great mistake, long pre-dating the Korean war, has been to base its defence, financial and economic policies on the assumption that existing conditions are normal and durable, the assumption, as proclaimed by Mr. Abbott, that economic forces are 'in balance'. They were not in balance last spring when Mr. Abbott made this statement and now all semblance of balance has disappeared. We face, in fact, a drastic overhaul of the nation's affairs which will be unnecessarily difficult if the Government encourages the public to imagine that it can carry on as usual."

The result of complacency and false hopes widely held in Canada is shown in a recent letter of the Canadian Congress of Labour to Mr. St. Laurent, complaining that rising prices are reducing the living standard in Canada,—in other words, that Canadian families are already finding it increasingly difficult to carry on as usual. The clearest fact before us is that the nation's living standards cannot go up for the present but must go down if the nation is to

be defended. Our Winnipeg contemporary, noting this fact, goes on to say:

"The Government undoubtedly knows, and shows by its increased defence preparations, that its hopes of last spring, its budget and its promises of vast social reforms are now quite out of date and belong to an era which suddenly ended with the invasion of Korea. Yet up to now the Government has not told the public that. A serious time-lag exists between its pre-Korean thinking and its present attempt to rearm. It cannot hope to secure the essential support of its new plans until it tells the public frankly that our national situation has entirely changed, that previous calculations must be altered. It need not be surprised if labor leaders demand impossibilities when it fails to tell the public the full and disagreeable facts, as the United States and British Governments have done already."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow 10th Sunday after Trinity.

Three more days till Old Home Week.

Ten more days till Railway strike or Government commandeering of railways, with employees under military discipline.

The Bank of Prince Edward Island founded this date 1856, preceding the inauguration of the P. E. I. railway by six years.

Labour Day holiday on Monday, September 4 and Thanksgiving holiday on Monday, October 9 are two off-days in quick succession.

The new Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Army, Brigadier Rockingham, is well known to the Nova Scotians who served under him in Great War II.

When Parliament meets in special session next month there will be nothing for it to do but endorse the Government's military policy, and vote "a sum sufficient" to pay for it.

Tibet used to be thought of as the locale of Shangri La, an idyllic sanctuary from the world. Now, it seems, Chinese Communists propose to make it another "workers' paradise", Russian style.

The withdrawal of Conservative Deputy Leader Willis from the Coalition Government of Manitoba, together with the re-organization of the Conservative headquarters staff at Ottawa would indicate a general election in the offing.

Soviet controlled East German miners are to have the privilege of wearing uniforms. Elsewhere miners only don them when the Government steps in in an emergency which requires them to be deprived of what we regard as ordinary civil rights.

Accidents will happen. Doorbells rang in 12 apartments at an early hour in Amboy, N. J. One excited resident telephoned police. The squad car roared to the door of the apartment house, siren screaming. In the lobby police found a young man kissing his sweetheart goodnight, her back against the bell buttons.

Nova Scotian teachers were told that hard work is necessary to produce a good education. We too often forget, in spoon feeding the younger generation with pre-digested facts, that the object of it all is to produce an individual capable of going after the knowledge which he or she may at any time require.

The official statement that "no consideration is being given at the moment" to re-organization of women's services shows that this country has a long way to go before we recognize that the fair sex is not composed of second rate citizens. When the pressure of events again forces a change of attitude the necessary organization will have to be built up from nothing.

Nova Scotia Government members' Pension Act for those having ten years' service has been proclaimed and now is in effect. Each member of the Government is required to pay eight per cent of his salary into the consolidated revenue fund as his contribution to the superannuation. Ministers now receive a salary of \$8,000, with the premier receiving \$9,000. In addition, they receive an annual indemnity of \$2,400. The pension must not exceed 70 per cent of average salary during the last three years of work. Eight per cent of the basic salary is deducted for the pension fund. Ministers without portfolio—who do not receive salaries but are paid special allowances for government work—are eligible. Now there need be no excuse for ex-Ministers hunting for Senate and other vacancies to keep the wolf from their door, when they reach the early age of sixty.



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.

"TO EACH HIS OWN"

Sir,— May I have the privilege of a very short space in your valued column in refutation of a letter signed "V. W. J.", Orwell. His caustic closing remark, "Perhaps a Live Guard would be more helpful than a Life Guard," was altogether irrelevant to the subject discussed. The Life Guard in question is there due to his qualifications as a life guard. He is also a university graduate, and a gentleman, but does not profess in any way to be a botanist. To each his own. I am Sir, etc., A. F. L. Charlottetown.

BENEFITTING FROM CRITICISM

Sir,— Marketing the surplus produce from an abundant crop, to the advantage of the producer, is one of two major problems in our agricultural pursuits; the other, how to produce that abundant crop economically. By what successive methods can this twin dilemma be liquidated, is something that has been agitating the minds of thinking farmers and official aides to agriculture for many years. In the realm of production, ideas and ideals to follow, are determined by experiment, and once facts are established, definite decisions can be made. Would that not be a commendable procedure to follow, when attempting to solve marketing problems? Depressed prices for either abundant or scarcity crops make for a discouraged agriculture. With parity prices or better being returned to the farm, business generally is active and buoyant.

For many years, and originating back much further than even the oldest can remember, the system of trading by which farm produce was channelled to the ultimate consumer was through what has become known today as "Free Enterprise". Anyone who had a "yen for dicker" might engage in a venture. From such beginnings there might, and did, develop big business and vast corporations. The individual producer was free to choose his own outlet of sale. He delivered his wares at a receiving depot, received his pay, usually arrived at on a competitive basis, and if the markets were good he went away happy; if not he was in a different frame of mind.

It should be remembered that the law of "supply and demand", along with other influences that might have a bearing, as today, determined payment to the producer. It was often felt, on making comparison here with elsewhere, advantage was being taken of our disadvantages, and that producers were not being paid what the trade would stand. Group marketing put to the test, confirmed this suspicion—that farmers were being exploited—and that was the beginning of co-operative marketing. It worked; improvement came about, so that now, marketing opportunities here, barring some geographical handicaps, are equal to or better than that of any Province in Canada.

Here then is opportunity to initiate an ideal situation. Free Enterprise is active. Co-operative associations are in operation and capable of being improved upon. This combination, when in motion, would create a competitive situation without which trade is bound to become stagnant. Under this dual system of marketing, we have everything that should be desirable. Farmer can market where, when and as they please. They remain free, responsible individuals, as destiny intended they should be—not just cogs in a wheel, ruled by a ritual of directives.

There is no reason why Free Enterprise and Co-operatives should not function complementarily to each other; they need each other. For instance, Co-operatives can often profit from the strong financial standing of a concern with which they may have occasion to do business. Free Enterprise may benefit greatly from the service a Co-

Russia at the Security Council

(By W. N. Ewer)

Yakov Malik's return to the Council table at Lake Success provided a perfect example of the dual character of present-day Soviet diplomacy. It is a mixture of subtlety and crudeness, of cunning and violence. As psychologists would say, it is ambivalent. Stalin admires cunning. He also admires violence. So the result is sometimes as confusing as if he were to order a tank to cross a tight rope or to pick an all-in wrestler to do some juggling.

I do not by that imply any personal criticism of Mr. Malik. He works to orders. And if he behaves in this way it is because Stalin wants him to behave in this way. When he manoeuvres adroitly, it is because Stalin wishes that. When he becomes hectoring and insulting, that too is Stalin's wish. When the two are mingled confusingly, the confusion is Stalin's. It is characteristic; and it is dangerous.

And what confusion this was. First, the ingenious plan, calling for dexterity and smoothness in execution, if it were to achieve its object. And then, when the moment came, the arrogant and abusive methods calculated to defeat the whole purpose. That purpose was, of course, almost absurdly obvious. One of the principles of Stalin's diplomatic strategy is to seek to divide and confuse the free world while at the same time consolidating the Communist world under his own absolute command.

To this end, his agents and propagandists not only try to foment domestic troubles in every country, but to stir up trouble between countries. That and no sympathy for national freedom ("burn it out with hot irons") is the Stalin recipe for nationalism in his own empire is why the Communists are charged to organize revolts among Colonial Peoples. That is why Communist propaganda in Britain is anti-American and in America, anti-British.

The Korean affair suddenly confronted the Kremlin with a quite unexpected unity of feeling and purpose in the United Nations. The obvious way to try and disrupt that unity was to switch the Security Council from dealing with Korea, on which it is united to dealing with some other question on which it is known to be divided, if that were done, quarrels might break out and the newly-found strength of the Council sapped. If at the same time, its resolution could be weakened by the arousing of false hopes that Russia is about to be conciliatory and co-operative, so much the better. It is another of Stalin's favourite devices.

The choice of subject, too, was obvious. The Council for six months has been evenly divided on the Korean question. It is now operative may be able to render in assembling loads, shipments or cargoes, speedily. This would not be a new experience in Prince Edward Island. Let us have voluntary co-operation between individuals, which has always been practically automatic, and an arranged co-operation between business concerns, when desirable. Let us forget the Big Stick, Controls and Coercions. A little more Freedom is what the world needs.

I am, Sir, etc., J. A. GILLES Charlottetown.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

VALEDICTORY

Excerpts from a speech by Sir Henry Vere Huntley, Lieutenant Governor, prior to his departure from this Island in 1847:

"They represent me as governing with a minority, whilst the journals of the House of Assembly give a direct contradiction to the assertion. But this is not the only falsehood. I am stated to have neglected the real interests of the Colony, and to have unworthily bestowed my patronage. Nothing could be more grossly and scandalously untrue, unless, indeed, I refer to another part of this precious document, where it states that I was annoyed because my salary was not advanced £500. . . . "Some affect to have heard that I should not return to this Island—others said I dare not, as I was in debt £400 to one, £600 to another, and I had fled to the back woods of the United States. I doubt not, gentlemen, that after all their reports, it will be gratifying to you to be informed that all just claims against me are discharged; and what is, I believe, rather a novelty on this Island—with my own money."

the question of Chinese representation—with the United Kingdom and the United States in opposing camps.

If that controversy could be started up, if at the same time she got her way in this, she might perhaps call off the North Korean invasion, then there would be a chance of dissensions and divisions that could cripple the Security Council in its determination to halt aggression. It would be interesting to know the original source of the suggestion that if the Chinese Communist Government's representative were admitted to the Security Council, the Council would be able to work out a "peaceful settlement of the Korean question." But when Pandit Nehru, with the best intentions was persuaded to link the "Chinese question" with the "Korean question" in his attempt to get Russia to cooperate in the restoration of peace, Stalin thought he saw his opportunity.

The accident that Malik was due to act as Chairman of the Security Council in August, and would therefore have the initiative in proposing the agenda, was an additional advantage of the moment. It was a situation which skillful diplomacy might have exploited very successfully. How adroitly the older school of Soviet diplomatists—Litvinov or Rakovskiy, or even Malsky—would have handled it. But now ambivalence gets to work. There must be big brave words. Orthodox phrases must be used. "The ruling circles of the United States are claiming world domination." The United Nations is being used as an instrument of aggression. To vote against the Soviet suggestion for the agenda is to "proclaim a desire to continue the aggression in Korea and to extend the theatre of war." And so on—with little or no thought of anything but verbal assault. Broadsword where rapier was needed.

And one cannot avoid the thought that the purpose was that Stalin in the Kremlin should chuckle and say approvingly "Good. That is the way in which a Rus-

Notes By The Way

We hear some talk of an Old Boys' Week in St. Thomas next year. If there is any movement to make men grow whiskers so as to look like the old-timers, we hope women will organize a campaign to quash the idea. If a man gets it into his head to grow a beard we would heartily favor maternal doses of arsenic in his coffee. And if there is a crop of inquests and we are on the jury we will stand out for a verdict of "justifiable homicide" in each case.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

It must be established now and forever that aggression will not pay. In the case of Korea, settlement is possible on one basis only: that the fighting stops and the invaders obey the Security Council by withdrawing behind the 38th Parallel. Any bargaining that sidestepped or whitened down this requirement would be a fatal blunder; it would be a signal to all adventurous militarists that the Security Council does not mean business, and that the way of an aggressor is easy.—Daily Herald (London).

"Has not the time come to abolish train announcers altogether?" asks a correspondent in the Railway Gazette. The writer has a case. How often do people listen, with ears raised like an elephant's to a long recital of names from Little Mushroom to Nettie Bagwash. They manage to decipher every name until they are sure the next one is their station. Then comes a tremendous hiss of steam and all the speaker's efforts are wasted. But, on the other hand, others have often merrily bound southwest for Drytown, thinking they were at last on the way southeast to Seashaw.—London News-Chronicle.

The Age-Old Story

Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right. sian should stand up to these people. That is the way for a great power to talk." To like that sort of thing is an occupational disease of dictators. And it is a dangerous one.

To be civilized is to be reasonable and law-abiding. The automobile accident death rate is not an encouraging comment on the reason of twentieth century, chromium-trimmed man.—New York Herald-Tribune.

Just because your cat isn't the cute little kitten he was when you first got him, don't leave him to scrounge for himself when you go away on your holidays. Humans societies are being swamped with stray cats that have been left to fend for themselves while their owners were enjoying themselves far away. This kind of thoughtlessness is cruel to the cat, and tough on the neighbors. They will either have to feed your pet or suffer his constant hungry mewings and attempts to get into garbage cans. If your cat is worth having as a pet, make arrangements for his care while you are away. If you don't think he's worth the trouble get rid of him. But don't be cruel to the cat and thoughtless of your neighbors.—Vancouver Province.

The Poet's Corner

WHO LOVES THE LAND Say this: he tended earth 'till spring to fall That quiet acres which he owned might wear The snow of cotton clusters, that his share Of fields give bread. The meadow-thrush, the call Of crow, mist hanging on the moon—they all Meant everything to him; were hope or scare In pregnant seasons when the very air Was sensitive to change; a sunset-hall Of flame spelled much. Remember that he knew The secrets of wood and hill, when trout Were hungry; where the ripest berries grew; What tides of summer green would fall in drought. Who loves the land and drives his furrows deep Becomes a name humanity should keep. —Walter Blackstock

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