

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1952

Food Supplies

The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations has in the past been continually urged to recognize the importance of action to stabilize prices at reasonable levels. At its meetings last month, however, the proposal was at least hinted at by the assistant director, Mr. F. L. McDougall, that the FAO Council should consider the question of price incentives to increase production.

The reason for this changing view, of course, is the worsening food supply situation in the world. Since the immediate pre-war period the world's population has increased by 12 to 14 per cent, while food production has increased only 7 or 8 per cent. As far back as 1937 the League of Nations reported that half the world's population suffered from malnutrition and since then, inequalities in food supplies, which were great before the war, have become even greater.

It might as well be recognized that the day of cheap food is past. Technical assistance to primitive farmers and more efficient methods of distribution are helpful but the fact remains that to increase agricultural production to the extent which is needed requires the prospect of prices to the farmer which will compensate him for the additional effort required.

Wealth On The Seashore

Seaweed, long regarded in the Atlantic provinces as mere fertilizer, says the Frederickton Gleaner, now is being investigated by the new Maritime Regional Laboratory in Halifax for commercial and industrial possibilities.

Seaweed extracts have been found to possess qualities useful in many industries, from preparation of food products to the manufacture of textiles. Several countries, especially Japan, China, Norway, Scotland, the United States, have built sizable industries through the abundant seaweed on their shores.

This research now going on in Halifax might well prove profitable to the seaside provinces. As one expert observed, "there is no reason why the Maritimes could not do as well as Scotland in this industry if our investigations bring favorable results."

The laboratory is focussing its research on rockweed, the most prolific of the seaweed family, and especially plentiful in these provinces. Science has discovered that this plant is an energetic producer of a substance known as alginic acid.

This acid has a use in the preparation of food products and also can be used in inks, adhesives, boiler compounds, detergents and cleaning compounds.

Senate Warning Sounded

An important report which received less attention than it deserved when submitted just before the adjournment of Parliament, was that of the Senate Finance Committee. This committee was authorized to examine the expenditures proposed by the estimates laid down for the year ending March 31, 1952, and it went into the matter very fully and frankly. The examination included a study of the records of revenues from taxation collected by the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments in Canada and the incidence of this taxation in its effect upon different income groups, together with records of expenditures by such governments, and estimates of gross national production, net national income and movement of the cost-of-living index.

Among other things it was noted that "the total money required for travel and removal expenses for all government purposes is well over \$46 million, of which just about \$14 million is for purely civilian needs." The Committee "feels certain that this amount of \$46 millions could be sharply reduced without injury to the public interest." As another example of elaborate spending, the Committee discovered that \$18 millions is provided for office stationery, supplies, equipment and furnishings. Of this more than \$12 millions is for purely civilian purposes. "Surely all this could be much reduced without hurt to efficient administration," the report wisely suggests.

After reviewing a number of other items of expenditure and the alarming rate of increase in these expenses from year to

year, the Senators declared: "Your Committee believes that there needs to be a new approach everywhere to the business of public spending. The increasing tendency of people to demand that the government do something about all kinds of problems which the community or the individual should solve for itself or himself is, we believe, accountable for much mounting public expenditure and, if not checked, bids fair to undermine our present system of government."

In examining combined revenues and expenditures of all governments in Canada, the Committee, in the absence of complete data for the current year, but basing their calculations on records of previous years, "thinks it is a fair assumption that for this present year all governments combined will take from the Canadian taxpayers in excess of six billion dollars" and "will spend somewhat short of that amount."

In the Federal field the need for increased revenue and, as a result, increased taxation, arises mainly from rapidly expanding defence expenditures, which this year will be over two billion dollars, and expanding welfare costs which for the same period, including soldiers' pensions and allowances, at all levels of government, will be at least one and a half billions of dollars, of which more than two-thirds is for Federal account. Of this latter amount two items, old age pensions with pensions for the blind, and family allowances, will require over \$675 millions.

In reviewing Government expenditures for all purposes, the Committee warns of the danger that faces our whole economy and system of government unless the brakes are applied properly and the taxpayers become more conscious of needless government expenditure.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Imported garlic was not stopped by the United States tariff commission. President Truman declined to give effect to such a recommendation and instead criticised protectionist pressures.

The havoc wreaked in Salem harbour by a squall of 20 minutes duration gives point to such safety measures as always carrying a life preserver for everyone in a boat.

The high cost of building reduced the number of new homes started in Canada from 95,270 in 1950 to 72,079 last year. The explanation seems to be that Canadians are saving more before attempting to build in order to cope with higher costs and rising interest rates.

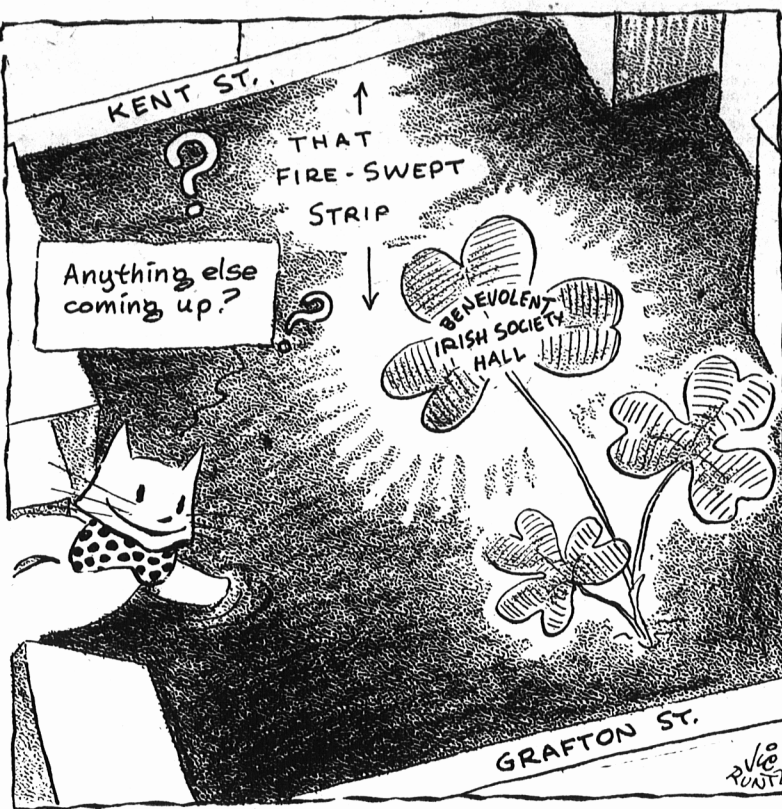
Captain Sir Robert Stirling-Hamilton, B.T., well known to many in Canada as the former British Navy Liaison Officer in Ottawa, is in command of H. M. S. Swiftsure, the escort vessel for H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit to the Olympic Games.

Vincent van Gogh, Dutch painter, died this date 1890. At sixteen he joined a firm of art dealers but, being disappointed in love, he left and became a schoolmaster in England and then a missionary amongst Belgian miners. He studied painting at the Hague, Antwerp and Paris, where he became acquainted with the impressionists. He had a wide and splendidly original scope and was a daring colourist. At the asylum where he spent his later years his work was as great as ever.

This country has always maintained that it lies on the most direct route from the United Kingdom to the Far East and Australia. Now a correspondent in the Times Review of Industry this month thinks that one of the world-girdling routes will be westward from London through Gander, Montreal, Edmonton to the North-west Canadian coast, across to the Aleutian Islands, and then linking up with existing B. O. A. C. routes at Tokyo. If the Hong Kong airport proves inadequate for such airliners, they would return through Manila, Bangkok, Calcutta, Karachi, Beirut (or Cairo) and Rome to London.

Saskatchewan's Proceedings against the Crown Act was proclaimed to take effect July 15, according to a recent statement by Attorney-General J. W. Corman, Q.C. Any citizen may sue the Saskatchewan government without a fiat or petition of right. Only two other provinces—Manitoba and Nova Scotia—have similar legislation, but he added the Saskatchewan statute would allow greater freedom of action than that of either of the other provinces. "Our Act is retroactive," the attorney-general said. "It does not shut out anyone with a live cause of action of any date." Under the Saskatchewan statute a trial by jury is allowed. Such acts should go further than merely doing away with procedural obstacles. They should give the subject a cause of action in any case where he would have one against a private individual or corporation.

A Welcome Re-Growth



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

NEW CATHOLIC CEMETERY

"At St. Dunstan's Cathedral yesterday, His Lordship the Bishop of Charlottetown invited the congregation to meet him at the new Cemetery today for the purpose of laying it out and planting it with ornamental trees. The invitation met with a hearty and generous response. Hundreds of persons have, throughout the day, been engaged in the work, and under the superintendence of the good Bishop, Owen Connolly, Esq., Thomas Handrahan, Esq., Patrick Blake, Esq., Michael Hickey, Esq., and others, such good progress has been made that by this evening it will be well nigh finished." —The Examiner, June 11, 1883.

Worthy Olympic

(National Geographic Bulletin) Finland, host this summer to the fourteenth modern Olympic Games, a small country of lakes, forests and snows whose gallant people adhere as firmly as any on earth to the ancient Greek belief in equal development of mind and body.

Finland has produced impartially the composer Jean Sibelius, the diary runner Paavo Nurmi, the architect Alvar Aalto and the javelin thrower Yrjo Nikkanen. To their famed institution of the sauna, or steam bath, notes the National Geographic Society, the Finns themselves attribute much of their ability to produce such talented and hardy citizens.

In the sauna, the bather parboils himself in scalding steam, is soundly switched all over with birch branches, and finally cools out with either sudden immersion in a live river or a snowdrift outside the bath house.

Many of those who have taken these ritualistic baths claim that the resultant feeling of physical, mental and spiritual well-being, beyond compare with other human experience. Others feel it may at least help explain how the Finns, who are in part a Mongolian people, remain sufficiently rugged to survive and prosper in a bleak country poor in natural resources and ravaged time after time by war.

The Arctic Circle crosses Finland—Suomi, in the Finnish language. Slightly larger than New Mexico, the land lies in northern Europe between Sweden and Russia. Finland counts only timber, water power and the character of her citizens as her major resources.

Historically, Finland as a country never enjoyed independence until 1918, when she broke away from the Russian Empire. The Communist regime inherited her from the Czars, who had controlled Finland since 1809. Before the 12th century, Finns governed themselves in independent tribes.

Then Sweden conquered the land, which thereafter became a battleground in struggles between the Swedes and the Russians. In World War II, despite heroic resistance, Finland was twice overrun by the Soviets. Between defeats, she was ravaged by the Nazis, with whom she had perforce allied herself.

Despite their alliance, Finns are still regarded by Americans as a valiant people who refused to declare war upon the United States and who proudly and promptly pay their war debts.

This year will be the first that Finland has been Olympics host, although the "flying Finns" began making their amazing distance running records in the Games held just after World War I. She was to have had the 1940 contests, but they were cancelled because of the war.

Notes By The Way

—Thirty years or so ago therecheck to make sure the place was not a black squirrel in the city. They were fairly plentiful in the hardwoods in the adjoining rural districts. Classed as "game," there was an open season, when hunters were permitted to shoot them, thus keeping their numbers within bounds. Today it is seldom one sees a black squirrel in the country. Apparently they have all come to the city and taken up permanent quarters in the parks where they have driven out many of the song birds that formerly nested within the precincts of these breathing places.—Guelph Mercury

—Curious are the things that happen when coin boxes of one kind or another are put up in public places and passers-by are invited or commanded to contribute to them. The City of Edmonton, for example, has built up quite a collection of exotic objects found in parking meters. They include foreign coins of many lands—pennies, annas, guilders, shillings and yen. Also on hand are the inevitable slugs, used by the thrifty to save a couple of cents. A variant on these is a nickel with a string attached, which some motorists vainly hoped to pull out of the meter when his hour was up. But the strangest object found was a \$22 American gold piece which someone absent-mindedly dropped in for the most expensive parking in history.—Edmonton Journal

—Education in Thailand seems remote enough from the Canadian scene, but a Canadian, Graham Crabtree is making films in a Thai school as an educational experiment. Unesco and two other United Nations agencies have undertaken to assist Thailand in a complete reorganization of her educational system and incidentally to test the uses of films in schools where this plan is fresh and untried. The first film strip to be produced will animate the teaching of science in the schools of the tree in Thailand have electric power. Distant Thailand thus becomes a laboratory for education, and from this experimentation Canada and other countries may benefit.—London Free Press

—Edward Weeks, editor of Atlantic Monthly, reports finding the following list of articles at a U. S. historic site he visited. The remains of 14 campfires, 116 beer cans, 21 milk bottles, seven soft drink bottles, a shoe box, egg shells, soap, half-eaten sandwiches, paper cups, cracker boxes, soda straws, cigarette packages, comic books, tabloid newspapers, playing cards, broken glass, paper napkins, mustard bottles, firecrackers, banana peels, orange skins, a baby foot in a piece of pink ribbon, thumb of a leather glove, a flashlight battery and a dollar bill. You might find a similar collection at any Ontario points, with the exception of the beer cans and the dollar bill.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

—At Snag Airport, Yukon Territory, it was 81 degrees below zero on February 3, 1947. In Ottawa it was 38 below on December 28, 1933. These are Canadian records. In the National Research Council laboratories here where physicists study low temperatures, 458 "degrees below can be achieved, which scientists say it is further than it seems—from the theoretical absolute zero of 460 below. At 460 below there would be complete order, no sun, no light, no movement. All would be still. With heat there is movement and the edges are blurred.—Ottawa Journal

—Through wars, depressions, and austerity, the nation of Britons has steadily improved, according to the latest report of their Chief Medical Officer. One of the most striking facts is that infant and maternal mortality are only one-fifth as prevalent as in 1900. The reasons for Britain's improved health are instructive. They include greater temperance, better housing, higher wages, the serving of milk and meals at school, a considerable degree, they result from the social reforms of the wartime coalition and the post-war Labor governments. The national health service—anathema to medical organizations on this continent—is paying good dividends.—Ottawa Citizen

—A tragic footnote has been written to the story of the destruction by fire of Jasper Park Lodge, one of Canada's most famous holiday resorts. Nearly a week after the disaster, Alfred Peters, a senior employee at the lodge, died of his burns. Here was a hero's death, for it was largely through Mr. Peter's own cool devotion to duty that there were no other casualties, and no panic. He directed the quick, orderly departure of guests from the blazing log building, then made a last-minute

The Passing Scene

By Observer ENGLISH FARM MATTERS

An attractive English periodical called "The Farmers Weekly" has recently come to me. Perhaps there are readers of this column who would be interested in some of the things it contains.

Among the contributed articles is one entitled "Are they on the pay-roll?" This deals with the apparently universal question as to why young people forsake the farm for the city. The reason, in the author's opinion, is that they are not paid enough. The argument advanced by many fathers that "some day the son will have the property" is called insanely foolish. The only solution is to put the young man on the payroll and give him an income commensurate with the value of his labour.

The author also thinks the farmer's wife should be paid "a sum agreed between her and her husband according to the size and profitability of the farm" with a minimum of the equivalent of \$300.00 a year.

As one might expect there is a good deal of material devoted to various aspects of the Foot-and-Mouth disease which has been especially prevalent in the British Isles this year.

Lord Iveagh writes that while on a visit to Belgium and Holland he saw good effects from vaccination for the scourge, and he wonders why the British Agricultural Ministry does not encourage or command its farmers to do so. The only answer given by Government authorities is that immunization by vaccination could possibly result in vaccinated animals becoming carriers. Lord Iveagh does not find this very convincing. He says it is altogether more convincing that the Belgian experts with whom he talked discounted any such possibility.

In another place there is a Government statement upholding the slaughter policy and assuring the public that "the Agricultural Ministry is deeply interested in the further development of vaccination and in the expansion of research." That seems to be as far as the Ministry will go at the present.

As soon as the disease shows satisfactory abatement (it is already "dying the wane") a special inquiry into the whole situation will be conducted by a Departmental Committee. The main reason for the delay is that the Committee will then be able to give a "more dispassionate assessment" of the measures employed. Our own Mr. Drew could give them a pretty good idea of what an inquiry like that is likely to accomplish.

There is a story about a Buckinghamshire farmer who got sick and tired of the high price of feed and finally decided to have nothing more to do with "purchased feeding-stuffs". In this he was encouraged by a County Agricultural officer who told him: "Give the cows what they will eat and forget all about protein and starch equivalents". So, hay and two pounds of crushed oats per day per cow became the regular ration, with no extras.

Early potatoes of first quality were from \$3 to \$3.50 per 112 lb. bag. Turnips about 56 cents for a 12 lb. bundle. Hens' eggs brought around 60 cents a dozen and duck eggs (O toothsome delicacy!) a shilling less.

Fowl was priced at 22 cents a pound dressed and chicken at 10 cents higher. Next day hided in the field was quoted at \$25 a ton, with the old crop bringing a ton less. Oats, for which there appeared to be a good demand, were being sold at about \$3.60 for 112 lbs.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for M. Alban Farmer, Q.C., Bell, Mathieson & Foster, Frederic A. Large, Q.C., J. S. Taylor, J. A. Carruthers, R.O., Byron J. Grant, O.D., Dr. W. R. Carson, Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, H. R. Doane & Company, and McDonald, Currie & Co.

The Age-Old Story

Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

The Poet's Corner

SONNET There was an Indian, who had known no change. Who strayed content along a sunlit beach. Gathering shells. He heard a sudden strange commingled noise: looked up, and gasped for speech. For in the bay, where nothing was before. Moved on the sea, by magic, huge with belling cloths on poles, and not one oar. And fluttering colored signs and clambering crews. And he, in fear, this naked man alone. His fallen hands forgetting all their shells. His lips gone pale, knelt low behind a stone. And stared, and saw, and did not understand. Columbus's doom-burdened caravels slant to the shore, and all their seamen land. —J. C. Squire.