

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

Dr. Huang's Testimony

Communist propagandists are fond of saying that they are not against religion, as such, but only against politically minded ecclesiastics who identify religion with the capitalistic system.

Dr. Huang is now in the United States where his book "Now I Can Tell", which sets forth his experiences as a prisoner of the Communists, was published a month or so ago.

At a luncheon held in his honour on the day of the book's publication he told just how little Communist promises of freedom are worth.

In China in 1944 and 1945, Dr. Huang said, "the Communists promised protection of Church people and Church property and freedom of religion.

At the same time five wooden boxes were put up into which the names of persons suspected of opposition to the Government might be dropped, without the signatures of the accusers.

My name was put in one of the boxes, and I was arrested."

After Dr. Huang had been subjected to every possible humiliation and much physical torment a Communist official came to him with this proposal: "O teacher, if you are willing to come with us we will put all religions, including the Moslem, under you."

There was, however, a little hitch in this seemingly generous proposal: the bishop was to be permitted to do anything, except preach the Christian gospel.

Not being willing to pay such a price for freedom and power, Dr. Huang was taken back to prison where for several weeks he was obliged to stand with 19 others in a small wooden cage.

"I learned to sleep, standing," he says. When he was so ill that the Communists thought he was near death he was carried back to his own house.

Later, having recovered a little from his physical illness and injuries, he managed, with the aid of a woman truck driver, who happened to be a Christian to escape into Burma.

From there he went to the United States. "I do not regret my experience," Dr. Huang told his American audience, "it helped me to understand human suffering. You do not appreciate freedom until deprived of it."

Indochinese Nations

Viet Minh, the Communist dragon that swallowed Dien Bien Phu, menaces not just one but three Indochinese nations. For, as a National Geographic Society bulletin points out, Indochina today is a geographic name rather than a political entity.

Actually at stake are three quite distinct, virtually independent countries—Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Most populous by far, Viet Nam holds the richest prizes and already has seen eight years of fighting. As a whole, Indochina's three States, members of the French Union, cover a third more territory than France itself.

Placed on the east coast of the United States, they would reach from Maine to Georgia and inland beyond the Appalachians.

Viet Nam has been described as two baskets of rice hung from a shoulder pole of mountains. On the northern Red River delta around Hanoi, and in the far south on the plains of the Mekong River around Saigon, a majority of Viet Nam's 25,000,000 people are crowded into rice-rich lowlands.

Between stretch the long rugged Annamese mountain ranges. Viet Nam means "People of the South." It is a Chinese term, and from China, down the centuries, came much of Viet Nam's language, religion, and culture.

Similarly Viet Minh, the Communists' name, means "Association of the People." Generally speaking, Viet Nam now holds the rice bowls and Viet Minh the limestone mountains and wild jungles.

mountain spine, Laos and Cambodia are lands of differing peoples and cultures, more closely related to Thailand, Burma, and ancient India than to Viet Nam with its Chinese influences.

Laos, oftentimes called the "Land of a Million Elephants", is a kingdom of Thai tribes who speak the same language as northern Siamese. Peaceful, unhurried, and naturally friendly, they number little more than a million; Laos, twice the size of Pennsylvania, has only half as many inhabitants as Pittsburgh's metropolitan area.

Their king is named Sisavang Vong. Viet Minh forces invaded Laos in 1953, but were stopped by French troops flown to the royal capital of Luang Prabang.

Communists control today chiefly a slice of northeastern Laos just across the border from Dien Bien Phu.

Cambodia, the southern kingdom watered by the Mekong River and facing the Gulf of Siam, has had almost no trouble with Communist rebels so far. Cambodians are Khmer peoples, descended from the civilization that built, over 1,000 years ago, the magnificent temple city of Angkor.

Today they number about 3,750,000. Indochina's crisis lies partially in the fact that six times as many people live in Viet Nam, with its two rice bowls, as in Laos and Cambodia combined.

Should Viet Nam fall, its two neighboring States would find it increasingly difficult to stand alone.

The Great Prerogative Writs

Counsel for a New Brunswick service station operators' association has applied for a writ of certiorari to obtain a review of an appellate decision which failed to enforce an early-closing by-law.

The bar of that Province has long been noted for its ready use of the great prerogative writs of habeas corpus, certiorari, prohibition, mandamus, quo warranto, and ne exeat regno, although in fact they are common to all Provinces having the Common Law tradition.

Their purpose was to provide for superintendence over the due observance of the law by officials and others. No one, high or low, could exercise official powers without having to answer for sins of omission or commission.

Those who neglected their duty and those who overstepped their authority found that the Courts could step in and insist that right be done.

The simplification of the rules of practice in the courts, together with a considerable broadening of the statutory right of appeal have made it possible to obtain most of the remedies ordinarily required without resort to what are apt to be considered antique proceedings.

What is given by statute, however, can be taken away by statute and it is not unknown for an individual suffering injustice to be deprived of the modern methods of redress.

The old prerogative writs remain the means by which the Courts can enquire into the legality of almost any official act. They are a safeguard against the possible abuse of power and the New Brunswick bar does a valuable service in keeping alive the tradition of resorting to their use.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of H. M. the Queen.

Secretary of State Dulles is far from being a Churchill but there is effectiveness in his phrase about Communists dragging their feet at Geneva while intensifying their war effort in Indo-China.

The army is counting largely on the C. W. A. C. reserve to do much of its anti-aircraft work, according to Lt.-Gen. Guy Simonds, chief of general staff.

The regular army employs men to do many tasks which in case of emergency must be taken over by women.

Legislation is before Parliament to give effect to the Dominion-Provincial agreement to leave control of inter-provincial highway traffic to provincial transport boards.

For the time being, at least, there will be no Federal system of highways but the situation can be changed by simple act of Parliament.

Charles John Huffan Dickens, English novelist, died this date 1870. His father, a navy pay clerk, was improvident and spent two years in a debtors' prison, a period which made a mark upon the son but also furnished him with a first hand acquaintance with a life of poverty.

The young Dickens spent a year in a solicitors' office and then became a parliamentary reporter. By the age of 22 he was turning out work of creative genius, sketches of contemporary manners, and was commissioned to write a series of sporting novels of humorous character.

The project fell through and instead he created the immortal "Pickwick Papers." He wrote many and varied works but left "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" unfinished.



Here Comes The Groom

Tinkering With Parliament

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.

SURPLUS POTATO PROBLEM

Sir,—I was impressed with that frontpage story in your May 29 issue, giving the D.B.S. estimates representing growers' intentions to plant potatoes this year.

Apart entirely from the interesting fact that, according to the estimates, there should be 34,300 acres sown to potatoes in your Island as against a combined potato-sown area on the Canadian Prairies of only 46,500 acres I noted that, under normal weather conditions, we could have a 1954 Canadian potato crop amounting to 62.7 million bushels; to be contrasted with a possible U. S. potato crop of 347 million bushels this same year.

The feature which strikes this reader as curious, to say the least, is that with more than ten times our population, our American neighbors grow not much more than five times our potato bushelage—yet, according to my reading, the so-called "surplus potato headache" is getting the spotlight as a potential danger south of the line.

It seems to me that there is logic and economic prudence in those closing words of the above-mentioned article, culled from an analysis of the above DBS figures on "growers' intentions to plant potatoes this current year, and which certainly merit the study of the primary producer: immediately concerned: "It is suggested that growers analyze these figures before committing themselves to too large an acreage, heavily fertilized."

Apparently, in terms of your potatoes as in our prairie wheat, quality has tempted both groups of growers to put too many eggs in a single basket. However, there is one aspect in which the 'balance' of advantage moves definitely to the side of the wheat growers—i.e., in the matter of storability.

On the other hand, I feel that the laboratory and the research workers should be put to work on the industrialization of the potato into new uses and inedible tonnage. This is the 'escape hatch'. I think it should be somebody's business to build it!

I am, Sir, etc. WESTERNER

DRINK & THE CHURCH MEMBER

Sir,—Drink in strict moderation would not be harmful but the trouble is so often runs into excess. Here in Canada there are some 900 alcoholics, who cannot know what will turn out of a man except through experience. I lived two years in the home of a man whose father was a medical doctor, a moderate drinker. His son Charlie began early and ultimately became an alcoholic. His wife, a splendid woman left him, and then Charlie went quite to the dogs. It was a drink disaster came. In one case the son failed in business. In another a son committed suicide. In another a home broke up and divorce followed.

Jesus loved people, and yearned for their salvation, and knowing well the dangers that beset the path of young people he warned "whoever causes one who believes in me to go astray it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and be cast into the sea." Let it never be said of us that we caused one of Jesus' own to go astray!

I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN

Stanley Bridge

Old Charlottetown

The Presbyterian, July 3, 1884: Mr. McCourt has resumed the publication of The Advertiser, not in Georgetown, however, but in this city.

We are informed that Mr. M. W. Murphy, teacher, Milcove, shot a Falcon last Friday evening, which measured four feet from tip to tip. This is an extremely rare bird on the Island. Prof. Earle, who is in the best position to know, says that it is but the third which has been shot during the past eighteen years.

Messrs. Michael Egan and Angus DesRoches, who had the contract for taking down the old Fire Bell and putting up the new, have successfully and satisfactorily performed the work. The new bell is a great improvement on the old, but many think it is not the thing yet.

Mr. Arthur Newberry has returned from Halifax, where he went to procure, if possible, a person skilled in horticulture to take charge of our contemplated public garden. He was successful in obtaining a gardener, George Fletcher, who is now actively at work.

That being a lesson of experience, should we not be wary of tinkering with such a system? Of doing anything that might limit the freedom of men in Parliament to call for redress of grievances, to check the pretensions and sometimes the conceits of ministers, and to continue their historic duty of auditing the Queen's estimates?

Parliament is and should be a sort of "safety valve" for the voicing of opinion (right or wrong) in the constituencies. It is the belief of The Journal, which has watched Parliament a long time, that long speeches and debates are not the chief reason for unnecessarily long sessions, but rather the failure of Governments to organize Parliament's business.

There is no reason whatsoever why measures mentioned in the Speech from the Throne should not be placed before the House within a week or 10 days of their announcement. Actually—and this has happened under all governments—such measures are delayed for months, and, in addition, there are other measures not mentioned in the Speech from the Throne which come even later. As

The Age Old Story

And David my servant shall be king over them; and they shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

The best after dinner speaker is the one who prepares his speech as carefully as he would if he thought some one was going to be listening. —Hamilton Spectator.

Giving vent to bad temper when you feel it is a way of avoiding high blood pressure, says a medical columnist. Yes, but what about the high blood pressure it causes in other people? —Peterborough Examiner.

Talleyrand, who was Napoleon's foreign minister, once defined a diplomat as "A man who never forgets a woman's anniversary but never remembers her age." —Hamilton Spectator.

The British Broadcasting Corporation has a new type of mobile TV camera which it calls the "Roving Eye". It is said to be quite a success. Many a husband with the same sort of equipment has found it costly. Cornwall Standard - Freeholder.

The Edinburgh Evening Telegraph tells the story of a sailor who was being shown by a land-lubber how to put a battleship into a bottle. "That's nothing," the sailor said, after seeing the trick, "You should try getting a bottle into a battleship!" —Hamilton Spectator.

In Georgia a budget named JoJo JoJo's job was to repeat the store slogan, "It's okay to owe Kay." All went well for a time but then the budget switched to "It's okay to own JoJo." Evidently the rascal thinks of going in business for himself. —T. W. Jones in Toronto Star.

Is your little darling suffering from TV teeth? The British Dental Association has warned parents that children have the habit of watching television with their heads in their hands. When they get excited they press harder and harder. The pressure may cause the teeth to go out of proper alignment. The cure may not be too difficult. Turn off the television set, firmly and bravely, and boot the little angels out into the sunshine where they belong! And in the evening make them sit without any support for their heads except their necks. That's what necks are for. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Francine Sagan, who is 18, graduated from a Paris High school last year and because she did well in literature decided to write a novel. When she completed it, she sent it to Juilliard, the publishers. Ten days later she received a letter telling her the novel had been accepted. It tells the story of a girl who tries to prevent her widowed father from remarrying. She succeeds, but unwittingly causes the death of the woman she did not want as stepmother. The novel is entitled Bonjour, Tristesse! (Good Morning, Sadness!) —Hamilton Spectator.

Absent-mindedness is an affliction often associated with scientists, professors, philosophers and the like, but seldom with pickpockets—perhaps because they cannot afford it. At least, that seems to be the conclusion emphasized in the case of M. Lefevre, of Charleroi, Belgium. Lefevre entered a home where a party was going on and "lifted" a wallet from a prosperous-looking gent. Hearing a commotion just as he was about to leave he threw away what he thought to be the stolen wallet. Instead it was his own billfold, which contained his name, picture and address. This mistake is now costing Lefevre eight months in jail. —Sydsvenska Dagbladet, Malmoe.

When Dr. Charles W. Mayo assumed his post as an alternate delegate of the United States to the UN General Assembly, he found it difficult to dissociate his medical background from his new post. One day, he was watching intently as a fellow delegate delivered a speech. When it was over, Dr. Mayo approached the speaker and said: "Speaking as a delegate, permit me to congratulate you on your speech. Speaking as a doctor, however, I should say that you are running a temperature of 103 and ought to be in bed." —E. E. Edgar in Winnipeg Tribune.

This is by way of a congratulatory pat on the massive back of a Greyhound bus, New York licence 38-80-CA, which we followed through the Aldershot 30-mile zone the other day at precisely 30 miles an hour. We might not be so struck by its good behavior if a few hours earlier, travelling the same 30-mile zone in the opposite direction, we had not been overtaken by no domestic buses travelling at, by the most conservative estimate, more than 45 miles an hour—and this on a stretch of densely populated highway on which the provincial police are trying to crack down on speeding. —Hamilton Spectator.

The Poet's Corner

SONG FROM CYMBELINE

Fear no more the heat of the sun, Nor the furious winter's rages; 'Thou thy worldly task has done, Home are gone and 'a'en thy wages: Golden lads and girls all must, As Chimney-sweepers, come to dust.

Fear no more the frown of the great; Thou art past the tyrant's stroke; Care no more to clothe and eat; To thee the need is as the oak: The sceptre, learning, physic, must All follow this and come to dust.

—William Shakespeare

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