

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 1953

Approved Unanimously

The new title approved by the Canadian House of Commons for Queen Elizabeth reads as follows: "Elizabeth the Second, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and her other realms and territories, Queen, head of the Commonwealth, defender of the faith."

There is something resounding and heart-warming about "Queen of Canada," notes the Globe and Mail; and it was indeed in eloquent language that Prime Minister St. Laurent expounded the significance of the phrase. Britain's constitutional monarchy has been for centuries a symbol of both political freedom and the unity of all kinds and conditions of people in the realm.

"There are two other points of high interest in the new Royal style," says the Globe and Mail. "Head of the Commonwealth" meets the special wishes of India which, while adhering to the family, has chosen to adopt republican procedures. "Defender of the faith" may have, for some British people, connotations linked with an established church; but, as Mr. St. Laurent said, "faith" here implies no credal distinctions for other citizens of the Commonwealth and can appropriately stand for basic beliefs which they all hold.

Mr. Howe At Havana

Mr. Howe, leader of the Canadian goodwill trade mission to nine Latin American countries, has said at Havana that Canada and Cuba may be able to work out a new sugar agreement to replace the three-year pact which expires this year.

The chief difficulty, so far as the Canadian situation is concerned, arises from the impact of imported Cuban cane sugar upon domestic beet sugar. In the House of Commons before Christmas, strong objections to the Cuban arrangement were taken by two members from beet growing districts in Western Ontario and Alberta.

"The Cuban sugar episode," says our Ottawa contemporary, "is interesting because it illustrates the difficulties encountered whenever a real effort is made to widen the range of international trade. A trade agreement almost invariably hits someone, although perhaps not so badly as the one affected sometimes imagines. On the other hand, it benefits other groups; in the present instance, the beneficiaries include Maritime fishermen and potato growers and Western grain producers."

U.S. Beef Policy

While it is now hoped and expected that the U. S. ban on Canadian meat shipments, resulting from the recent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, will be lifted March 1, it should be noted that the U. S. beef controls are now virtually meaningless. They certainly do not affect returns to the producer as is evident from the complaint of Senator Aiken, chairman of the committee on agriculture, that livestock now realizes "disastrously low prices."

which has been recommended by a livestock sub-committee of the U. S. Senate Agricultural and Forestry committee.

The Canadian interest in this matter notes an exchange, arises in an altogether curious fashion. It will be recalled that, when the U. S. market was closed to our producers, a triangular deal was worked out with New Zealand. In effect Canada undertook to supply the United Kingdom under an existing New Zealand contract thus marketing substantial quantities of meat) while 60,000,000 pounds of New Zealand beef were diverted to the United States.

One reason for the difficulty lies in the fact that U. S. purchasers are not used to handling frozen meat. But another arises from the fact that beef controls have to be worked out in terms of specified grades. Much of the New Zealand beef is considered by Canada to be of the highest quality though as frozen meat it has been given a low grade in the United States, with consequent low returns.

But if U. S. beef controls go, the system of grading upon which the controls rest will disappear also. In that case the expectation is that Canada will have much less difficulty in fulfilling her obligation to dispose of the New Zealand meat on the U. S. market. It will probably be more acceptable at better prices once it has been freed from the present wholly artificial grading labels.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Charlottetown reaches its centenary in 1955 and Canada in 1967. Both events are engaging the attention of progressive thinkers.

French custom officials now will accept verbal statements instead of the former written declaration that was required of all air travellers. Presumably the process of verification remains unchanged.

The Province of New Brunswick has increased the annual grant to Victorian Order of Nurses from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 per year. So far the V.O.N. has not had a branch in Prince Edward Island though an effort was made last year to arouse interest among possible sponsoring organizations.

At this date last year about one million bushels of potatoes had been shipped from Prince Edward Island. This year two million bushels have been shipped. The action of the New Brunswick Marketing Board in fixing a minimum price should have a steady influence on the market though the price decided upon is considerably below the P. E. I. price.

The sixth annual Agricultural Conference opens at Birch Court, Charlottetown Experimental Farm, this morning. Dominion and Provincial agricultural officials will get together and compare notes on their respective and joint activities. The work of the conference is continued through the year by committees which will report at this time.

On a question of privilege in the House of Commons the other day, Mr. McLure called attention to a recent report of the Department of Labor referring to the Borden car ferries as being owned by the Canadian National Railways. These boats are, of course, owned by the Dominion Government and are merely operated by the railway, a distinction of very considerable importance where Federal responsibility is concerned.

To make it easier for those left destitute by floods in the Old Country to come to Canada, Immigration Minister W. E. Harris has announced in Parliament that the assisted passage scheme, which is now open to single workers or heads of families, will be broadened to include dependents of workers as well. This will enable heads of families to come to Canada with their dependents without depleting their resources by the payment of heavy transportation costs.

"If the circumstances as we learn them would indicate that some other step can be taken to aid those who would like to come to Canada at this time," the Minister added, "we shall give consideration to it, bearing in mind the fact that people from the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands have been migrating to Canada since the war in goodly numbers and that they are the best of citizens when they come here."

Still, A Cure Would Be Better!



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.

WANTS A GLOSSARY

Sir—I would like a little space in your Public Forum, provided, of course, that Mr. Green is not using it, to suggest that, in the future, Mr. Pendergast append a glossary to his letters so that the common man may have some idea of what he is saying at. If I have any concept whatsoever of the epithet "pedantic," it applies to his latest debacle on the topic of porridge. I used to like porridge. But after reading all the queer names it has been called by Mr. Pendergast, I am wondering whether it is really safe to eat it.

I am, Sir, etc. McANDREW NAVIN Malpeque Road.

The Poet's Corner

OLD GARDENER

Although his crooked hands are palsied now And his feet unsteady in the garden row, His mind is green as a slender holly bough; Time has pruned away his years and drifted snow Of many winters crowns his head, yet he sees The weather signs and feels them in his bones, He marks the coming cold by gossip of the bees, He knows the lore of nature and he owns A curious kinship to the songs of birds . . . He has no need for radios or clocks, For the warm, sweet earth has spoken secret words Through eighty Springs of lilies, rose and phlox.

—Alma Robinson Higbee, in the New York Times.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

GARRISON CHANGES

"On Thursday morning the detachment of the 8th (King's) Regiment, left Charlottetown, where they had been stationed for the last twelve months, in the Pochontas steamer, for Pictou, thence to Halifax, accompanied by the good wishes of the inhabitants, whose esteem they merited by their uniformly correct and soldierly deportment in quarters. The officers accompanying the detachment were Capt. Longfield, Lieut. Marsden, and Dr. Blake. A company of the 64th Regiment consisting of 83 rank and file and two officers, commanded by Captain Draper, arrived here yesterday, to take the place of the 8th; also a Corporal and six men of the Royal Artillery." —The Colonial Herald, July 3, 1841.

The Age-Old Story

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Notes By The Ways

Her latest film is said to reveal Esther Williams as a talented actress, which may lead to casting her as Ophelia in Hamlet with the drowning scene done as an underwater ballet. — Winnipeg Tribune.

The decline of families is the departure point for the decadence of nations. All historians are in agreement in recognizing this fact. The classic example remains that of the Roman Empire. The day when their homes ceased to be prolific inaugurated the era of its decadence. Human capital remains the principal asset of a nation. It constitutes the essential framework of society. — Le Nouvelliste, Three Rivers.

Prime Minister St. Laurent has hinted that if there is an election this year, it will be held in the autumn. It is to be hoped this does not mean a summer campaign, as the voters will be wanting to relax during the warm months, rather than be frightened by resounding speeches about the breakdown in national defence, the Communist menace, or the need to clean out the long-haired boys in Parliament Hill's back rooms. — Ottawa Citizen.

A move toward the internationalization of road signs has been made by the United Nations. A UN committee composed of experts from five different continents has devised a system of road signs and signals based on symbols. For example, a sign showing skid marks under the silhouette of an automobile's rear end means "slippery Road Ahead." All that Canada will have to do now before it can enter into an international agreement is to reach some agreement at home. — Road and Wheel.

Believe it or not some banks in New York won't take Canadian money at any price! Only the other day a Canadian entered a major Manhattan banking establishment, went to the foreign exchange wicket and asked to have some Canadian bills exchanged for U. S. currency only to be told, a trifle frostily that Canadian money was not taken there. Where did one go? To a travel agency (of all places!) or so the teller said. As it turned out, a hotel was quite happy to accept Canadian money (at par), but the incident should indicate something, though precisely what escapes us at the moment. — Brantford Expressor.

There was a time when country living was a lonely life. Farm women, especially, were pitted, and farm children were bashful and shy because they seldom met anyone outside the family. That time belongs to the past. Farm people today have a full social and cultural life. They are taking full advantage of the network of good roads. They go more. They mingle with people of all walks of life and they make their own social activity as well. — Kitchen Waterloo-Record.

In Montreal a boy of fourteen guilty of six robberies, was sent to the penitentiary for three years. Some people will have hard things to say of such a sentence for one so young, but there must have been a real problem for the judge. He may have reasoned that so precocious a youngster had passed the stage in crime where a reformatory might help him—that the only chance of restoring him to the side of law and order was a stiff penitentiary term in the course of which the boy would become a man and would learn a trade. — Ottawa Journal.

A few old British die-hard, fighting a rear-guard skirmish against the spurious, suggested that nobles who could not afford real robes of velvet and ermine should stay away from the Coronation. They should have realized it was a hopeless fight and retired to the tranquility of their clubs. They were not in key with the times. Substitutes, as always, won the day: The lords and ladies may wear velvet and rabbit fur in Westminster Abbey on June 2 if they wish. — Hamilton Spectator.

An Edinburgh Scotsman whose somewhat specialized one-man business consists of making bags for bagpipes in his basement shop says Canada is his best market. Douglas Kewley's product was introduced to Canadians by a friend on a visit to Vancouver. Now Mr. Kewley gets many inquiries and one Canadian firm has given him an "open order" for as many bags as he cares to send at any time. In business only four years, he has supplied the Seaforth Highlanders in Korea and customers in India, Ceylon, Kenya, Switzerland and South Africa, as well as in the U. K. — U. K. Information.

The name of Peter Stuyvesant figures prominently in the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of New Amsterdam — now New York. "Peter the Headstrong," as the governor of New Amsterdam was called, was best known, during his own time, for his possession of an elaborately decorated peg leg. He is remembered now as the man who surrendered the Manhattan settlement — but not without a struggle — to the English fleet in 1664. — Ottawa Citizen.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

A TRIBUTE

During the course of one of the many delightful hours I spent in the company of Mr. Russell MacLaren of New Perla our conversation turned to people we both had known and loved, and who had passed away. We recalled their interesting qualities and characteristics that had endeared them to us and others. I said to my friend: "If I happen to be around when you leave this world may I have the honour of writing an eulogy about you?" "Yes," he replied, "but be careful what you say about me."

There was something more than a touch of humour about his answer to my request. It indicated also a desire that I should not make the eulogy too sentimental or too exaggerated. When a friend called last Thursday morning to say Mr. MacLaren had passed away I remembered what he had told me and I must keep it in mind as I go along.

Perhaps this column is as good a place as any for any little tribute and I make it from the depths of a great friendship which I like to believe has not been destroyed nor even hindered by his passing. If from his new condition of life in the spirit world he has any knowledge of what I am writing here, and neither Science nor Theology will discount that possibility, I hope he will not mind my saying that he was in life one of God's true gentlemen. "If I can only keep my good name I shall be rich enough," wrote the Roman philosopher Plautus. And I am certain that those who knew Russell MacLaren as I did will testify that he kept his good name. Like all other mortals he had his share of the successes and disappointments of life, but he had the happy faculty, denied to some, of knowing how to avoid over-eloquence in the one or bitterness in the other. In truth he was of the kind that Thackeray had in mind when he wrote:

"Who misses or who wins the prize, Go, lose or conquer as you can; But if you fall or if you rise, Be each, pray God, a gentleman." I can testify, and I am proud to testify, that in all the talks I have had with my late friend I never at any time heard him say a really unkind word about any person living or dead. He could be critical but not censorious; candid but not unjust. His thoughts were charitable and his affections true and abiding. And, because he gave to life the best he had of cheer and goodwill, life smiled upon him in his losses and in his gains. Again to quote Thackeray: "Life is a mirror; if you frown upon it, it frowns back; if you smile, it returns the greeting." Russell MacLaren knew as well as any person of my acquaintance the value of a kindly, benevolent smile. Whether or not he was familiar with Addison's works I do not know (it is quite possible for he had good taste in reading) but he certainly emulated at least one sentiment expressed by

that essayist and poet, "Cheerfulness is the best promoter of health and is as friendly to the mind as to the body."

To the vast majority of mankind youth is a phase. It comes, carries a while, and goes. To the select few it is a permanent way of life in a spiritual sense. Russell MacLaren was one of these. His body was more than four-score years old when he died but his mind and spirit were still in the freshness of youth is a phase. It comes, carries, he passed over and, as I doubt not, "all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side."

One of the richest attributes possible to old age is the ability to look back with a good perspective on the past and forward with a good hope to the future. The subject of this tribute could do both exceedingly well. He never failed in his affection for the day of old age and he was a good and loyal spokesman for his own generation. At the same time he found excitement in the new ways and retained a lively sympathy for the aspirations of the young and the changing judgements of the middle-aged. He could "look before and after," but this philosophy of life would not permit him "to pine for what is not."

Bereavement is a personal experience. "The heart knoweth its own bitterness and none may meddle with it!" And yet the heart's loneliness can be alleviated a little by healing touches from without. The gracious lady who shared her husband's lights and shadows for more than fifty years has the affection of a dutiful family and of a host of friends, a deeply rooted faith, and good memories, to sustain her. Perhaps she will not mind if I put down here some lines from a beautiful little poem by Frances Falk Miller. If they help her in some small way I shall be happy.

There shall come a day in Spring When death and winter Loose their chill, white hold Quite suddenly. That breathless hour So filled with warm, soft miracles That faith is born anew. On such a day I shall return to you! You may not touch me . . . no, For you have thought of me as dead. But in the silence lift believing eyes Toward the dear infinity Of skies. And listen With your very soul held still. For you will hear me on some little hill, Advancing with the coming of the year. Not far away, not dead, Not even gone. The day will suddenly be filled With immortality and song. And we still talk of every lovely thing When I return . . . in Spring!

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