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Matter For Vigilance

Hartford, Connecticut, has been one of the few American cities which have managed to get along fairly well without having to pay salaries to their Councilmen.

The story renews a question that has been debated off and on for many years: Are paid legislators on any level more efficient, or less so, than those who serve out of a sense of duty?

On the other side of the argument it can be said, and justifiably, that the "honour and duty" system, with no financial rewards to make it attractive, would automatically disqualify many otherwise capable men—and women—whose private means are meagre or actually non-existent.

History Made Over

The London Economist recently drew the attention of its readers to a remarkable revision of the Great Soviet Encyclopaedia. Recipients of the latest volume of the Great Soviet Encyclopaedia, it said, have found enclosed in it a discreet printed slip, on which the Moscow state publishers "recommend" readers "to remove pages 21 to 24 from Volume 5, and also the portrait between pages 22 and 23, in exchange for which pages with new text are sent to you.

This, notes The Economist, is not a recommendation to be treated lightly by anybody within the reach of the MVD, for the entry which is thus deleted for all time from the knowledge of Soviet man is the long and laudatory biography of the late Lavrenti Beria, and the portrait that must now be piously burnt is his.

Mithras in London

"In the second century of the Christian era, the Empire of Rome comprehended the fairest part of the earth and the most civilized portion of mankind." Thus Gibbon began his monumental history of Rome's "Decline and Fall," and it is from this flourishing period that the Mithraeum dates, the ruins of which have come to light in the heart of London.

traders, buying slaves and precious metals, selling wine and oil. Shrines of Mithras have been discovered at many stations along the Danube and the Rhine, where the Roman legions and Germanic races mingled. There are more shrines in Italy and around Rome, where the cult had its headquarters. Late emperors encouraged the faith of the troops because it encouraged loyalty to the Emperor.

Some photographs of the ruins of the Mithraeum show in the background the solid mass of St. Paul's Cathedral. When the pagan shrine was new Mithraism was thought of as a rival of Christianity—not a serious rival, as it turned out, but it was a long time dying. It lingered on among the Western legionaries and the people of the Eastern provinces even after the Emperor Constantine had accepted the sign of the Cross in which he had conquered as the symbol of the state religion.

Extensive Coverage

Whatever effect on the religious life of mankind this Summer's meeting of the World Council of Churches will have, it is evident that the secular press regarded it as eminently newsworthy. Just to give some idea of the tremendous news coverage given the event we are taking the liberty of quoting from a recent issue of The Christian Century, a well known and widely read American religious journal.

"One effect holding the Assembly in America is already having," reported The Century, "can hardly have escaped the attention of any literate person. This is the extraordinary interest of the press, which gave the Assembly coverage greater than that given any other Convention ever held in this country, with the single exception of the Republican National Convention of 1952.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bristol is officially reported to be the soberest seaport in England. It must be sobering to recall that John Cabot set out from there in a flush of enthusiasm and discovered the North American continent.

A memorable picture of a memorable occasion is shown on the cover of this month's Legionary. "Canada's Answer," the painting by Norman Wilkinson of the convoy carrying the First Canadian contingent 40 years ago is shown. A feature story on the history-making voyage is included in the number.

It is not really winter yet but gardeners are thinking about spring. At any rate Holland bulb growers are reminding them that it is time to plant tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses and snowdrops. The very names make one feel that winter is only an episode, getting the land ready for spring.

There seems to be a certain amount of submarine warfare going on just now but it is strictly a matter of conflicting statements at four thousand miles. American and Canadian naval authorities report submarine activity, presumably Russian, off these coasts and the official Soviet news agency Tass denies the allegation.

William Penn, Quaker founder of Pennsylvania, was born this date 1644. He was imprisoned in the tower for publishing his non-conformist views but released through the influence of his father the admiral. He inherited a claim against the Crown which was commuted for a grant of land in North America where he established a colony for persecuted religionists.

A practice which might with advantage be dropped is that of sending notes home from school by the hand of pupils. The disappearance of two 13-year-old Ontario girls given such notes about their conduct indicates the strain which the practice can place on a child. Sending the notes by other children amounts to forcing them to become sneaks. Postal rates are not so high that this threat to young people must be perpetuated.



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.

MR. PRATT'S LETTER

Sir,—I read with considerable interest, Mr. C. C. Pratt's letter but am puzzled on three points raised in it.

Point 1: The letter in question contains the following statement "After all, this is a democracy and in a democracy it is unethical for any group whether a majority or an influential minority to attempt to impose its will on the rest of the people."

I have always believed the theory of democracy was based on the right of the majority to decide. In fact, Democracy is majority rule. True, majorities may not always be right, but unless we accept the majority principle there would appear to be no alternative, other than democratic anarchy.

Point 2: Mr. Pratt states that any representation would have gotten more or better results with respect to Federal assistance from Ottawa. It will be recalled that on November 22nd, 1950 then Premiers, J. Walter Jones and J. B. MacNair, the Honorable Austin Taylor accompanied by Mr. E. D. Reid, Mr. D. A. MacDonald and others from New Brunswick were in Ottawa, seeking assistance for the industry. This delegation was promised nothing and received nothing. It was not until the spring of 1951 that the Potato Board negotiated the "Starch Policy."

If Mr. Pratt is correct in his assertion then we must conclude that the above mentioned gentlemen did not constitute a "decent" representation.

Point 3: Mr. Pratt states that the Potato Board is not a farmers' organization. This statement is puzzling as I have always believed that the Marketing Act was placed on the Statutes in order to provide the producers of any product with control of marketing. Certainly the Act and any schemes set up under it provide for the election by producers of Board members. If the Potato Board is not a farmers' organization, is it the instrument of the dealer, the Church, the Government or what?

I am, Sir, etc. PUZZLED Charlottetown.

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

Sir,—We are all thinking in terms of the world. The Communists say the world needs Communism and we live to give that to the whole world. No missionaries are as active and ardent as they are. Every one of them is a missionary to spread their idea. Before long we will have a federal election, and the Conservatives will cry: Give way to the Conservative party who can save this country from corruption and misgovernment. Missionaries of the party will be going out in all directions with the party cry, "Let the Conservatives save the country."

Yes, party government is necessary but it does not save the country from crime and other forms of unrighteousness. There must be spiritual power. Jesus knew what the world needed when he said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." In 1846 John Geddie went out from this island to Aneityum, an island of the South Seas, one of the most hopeless spots, spiritually, on this earth. When he went there was not one Christian, nothing but crime and war; and after fulfilling his mission, himself and his brave wife for 25 years, not one heathen was left and the moral life of that island was such that life and property were as safe as anywhere in Canada. Wherever the gospel has gone it is the same story, whether it is Africa or India, men and women are changed into truthful and honest people. I have seen this change take place, men and women who had been untrustworthy becoming truthful and honest. I have been surprised and delighted

NOTES BY THE WAY

"If you don't know anything good to say about your fellow man, don't talk," was the advice given us by a person who rarely has anything to say. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

One of the least welcome developments in furniture is a new desk with a foam rubber top. This, it is feared, will permit individuals who like to perch on other people's desks to be comfortable as well as nonchalant. — Edmonton Journal.

A township in Muskoka has gone into the Christmas tree business on its own and one of the results is that land formerly worth \$1 an acre now commands \$15 per acre. So it is easy to see that the municipality can win both ways, including the taxes. — Porth Arthur News-Chronicle.

Rubber roads have been laid down in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and 15 other states have put down test installations. Will the day come when all roads are made of rubber? If so, comfortable riding will have an entirely new meaning. — St. Catharines Standard.

Charged with assault causing bodily harm, a Waterloo man failed to appear in court. The complainant turned up, however, and announced that the case was settled. He had accepted \$25 from the accused to drop the charge, and he produced a receipt. Then he learned he had made himself liable to prosecution. Said Magistrate Kirkpatrick: "Nobody uses my court as a means of getting money out of people." He ordered the complainant to return the money and proceed with the charge. — Toronto Telegram.

The Poet's Corner

ON LOVE

O, what is love but the bee with the clover, The giving, the taking, The ecstasy wild and the tearing, The surrender— And then all is over; But somewhere the honey is hid in the hive And love to the lover is more than the passion.

For beauty is stored in some exquisite fashion To be eaten in thankfulness, silence and tears On the bread of the desolate years. —Duncan Campbell Scott.

at the transformation. Another important thing about this Christian character: it hangs together. The man not only comes truthful and honest but achieves self-control. In a moral sense he can be trusted and this in a heathen land means a very great deal.

In 1942 Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen made a trip through our foreign mission fields to find out for himself the value of our mission work. He was particularly struck with the work he found in the Pacific Islands, and the result is a book entitled "They Found the Church There", speaking for the American soldiers. Eighty years before this a ship, the St. Paul, was wrecked on Rossel Island in the South Seas. They were brought ashore by the Papuans but eventually every one of those three hundred sailors was eaten by the savages. But in the last war Captain Brown was shot down on that island and hid in the bush from the Japanese. He fell asleep and as dawn broke he heard a voice calling softly. "Mr. Brown! Mr. Brown!" The Papuan had found his life-belt. He reached for his automatic and peered through the bushes. "Are there any Japs around?" he asked. He was reassured by the native with a pat on the shoulder. Jacob was a native teacher of the Anglican mission and spoke good English. The flier's head was bandaged, he was fed and cared for till he was picked up by an Australian plane and carried to Port Moresby. The soldiers call those fellows: "The fuzzy-wuzzey angels", and thus the world over wherever the gospel comes it works a change in human life that Jesus wants to see to the ends of the world. I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN Stanley Bridge

Old Charlottetown

From The Examiner, July 24, 1882.

Mr. K. C. Hind, son of Professor Hind of Windsor, and brother of the last Rector of Georgetown, has been engaged as organist and choir-master of St. Peter's Church, and also as assistant master of the school. Mr. Hind has just finished his collegiate course at Windsor University, and is preparing for the ministry of the church.

The beautiful nursery of Mr. John G. Eckstadt is now in full bloom, and has been today called the St. Vincent de Paul Nursery. Mr. Eckstadt is one of the leading pillars of St. Vincent de Paul Society, of this city, and he has placed a box for the poor in his nursery. When visitors inspect the flowers, he gently reminds them that they can do something for the poor by throwing a few cents in his box. The Society is in receipt of ten or twelve dollars in this manner, and hence the name of St. Vincent de Paul Nursery.

It is proposed to hold a Conversonazione and Flower Festival on Thursday, the 3rd of August, in the Drill Shed, to promote the establishing of a Reformatory and Industrial School. On that occasion it is intended to form a committee of gentlemen to devise the best means for providing a suitable building for the institution, and will at a later day wait upon the Government with a view to securing an annual grant for its maintenance.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Canada's contributions to the Colombo Plan are set at \$25 million annually; for capital aid plus \$400,000 for technical assistance. Since the plan was inaugurated four years ago, Canadian contributions have totalled approximately \$102 million. Worked out on a per capita annual basis — \$1.70 per person per year — this is not a particularly impressive figure. But the total is a sizable one and Canadians should be interested in what is being done with their money.

A complete picture of Canadian activity is contained in the 1954 Progress Report of the plan which has been compiled over the past few weeks. The report was met at its 1954 conference at Ottawa last week.

So far, Canada's capital assistance has been restricted to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. It may be that this aid will some day be extended to take in other Asian nations. If it is, it will have to be spread thinner unless the Canadian government decides to increase its annual contribution to the plan.

To India has gone: \$3,000,000 worth of electrical equipment for the Mayurakshi power and irrigation project in West Bengal, and \$15 million assistance in local costs to be financed from counterpart funds from Canadian wheat supplied to India. This project will yield about 400,000 tons of food annually, prevent a river from flooding and generate enough power to allow small industries to be set up in the area; \$4,500,000 worth of trucks, buses and automotive equipment for the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation; 50 locomotive boilers valued at \$2,080,000 to the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works; 120 steam locomotives worth \$21 million to Indian Railways; \$1,200,000 worth of electrical equipment for the Umtru hydro-electric scheme in Assam, along with \$2,100,000 assistance in local costs to be financed from counterpart funds from the provision of copper and aluminum.

Pakistan has received: \$5,500,000 worth of equipment and engineering services for a cement plant at Thal in the Northwest Punjab; a \$3,000,000 aerial resources survey of the country. Geologists are now examining the most promising areas and it is hoped that the survey will result in a complete mapping of mineral and other resources; \$200,000 towards an experimental farm at Thal; \$2,800,000 worth of railway ties; three aircraft worth \$178,000 to form the nucleus of a pest-control service set up under the advice of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; \$8,900,000 worth of equipment and engineering services for the Warsak hydro-electric project in the Peshawar region of Northwest Pakistan, and \$10 million assistance in local costs financed from counterpart funds from the sale of wheat supplied by Canada; \$2,000,000 worth of equipment and services to a hydro-electric project in the Punjab.

Canada is also considering capital aid to the Ganges-Kobadai project in East Pakistan which will restore fertility to a million acres of land now out of production through a change in the course of the Ganges. Canada would provide a thermal power plant and engineering services; estimated at \$1,800,000. Other projects being considered are provision of hydro-electric equipment for an irrigation project in West Pakistan and electrical equipment and material for a power transmission link in East Pakistan.

Ceylon has received only about \$6,000,000 in aid from Canada to date, compared with nearly \$49 million to India and \$33 million to Pakistan. Assistance to Ceylon has covered: \$1,407,000 worth of equipment for a pilot fisheries plant, to enable Ceylon to build a cold storage fish plant and to make necessary fishing equipment available; \$800,000 towards the Mutwal fisheries harbor; \$970,000 worth of agricultural equipment and power lines for development of the Gal Oya Valley; \$650,000 to assist rural road development; diesel locomotives and railway ties worth \$1,125,000 towards agricultural maintenance workshops; \$500,000 towards construction of an equipment for a school of practical technology; \$185,000 worth of drainage and irrigation equipment; \$400,000 for the development of a school of practical telecommunications equipment for Colombo airport.

In addition to expenditures on capital assistance Canada has set aside nearly \$2,400,000 in the past four years for technical assistance to Asian members of the plan. Training has been provided for 202 students from Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and Thailand. Most of the trainees have concentrated on agriculture, engineering and medicine; but others have received training in education, industrial management, police administration, aviation, co-operative marketing and film production. Since 1950 a total of 52 experts in agriculture, forestry, co-operatives, education, pure and applied science, fisheries, medicine and public health have gone from Canada to Cambodia, Ceylon, India, Malaya, North Borneo and Pakistan.

Canadian technical assistance money will provide equipment for biological control laboratories in India and Pakistan; equipment for the agricultural faculty at the University of Ceylon; and equipment and tools for a tractor training school in Pakistan.

The Age Old Story

O Lord God of hosts, who is a strong Lord like unto thee? or thy faithfulness round about thee? ... The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine; as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them. ... Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand. ...

PROVINCIAL DRAMA FESTIVAL

Closing date for entries Oct. 15 —Mail To— MISS JESSIE FRASER 335 Poplar Avenue Summerside

POTATO GROWERS

Rush your potato entry to the Maritime Winter Fair, Amherst. Entries close October 15th.

Get your share of splendid prizes. Besides the Fair prizes there are many special prizes. Maritime Grand Champion Seed Section — \$125 offered by Canadian Industries Ltd. Reserve Grand Championship — \$75 offered by International Fertilizer Company Limited. Maritime Grand Champion and Reserve in the Tablestock Section will receive expensive watches.

The following Prince Edward Island firms have contributed substantial sums for special prizes:

- SEED POTATOES (approximately \$275) Associated Shippers Incorporated. The Island Fertilizer Co. Ltd. Canada Packers Ltd. H. B. Willis Inc. Simmons and MacFarlane Rohn & Haas "Dithane" TABLESTOCK SECTION (\$270) The Island Fertilizer Co. Ltd. The P. E. I. Bag Co. Ltd. P. E. I. Produce Co. Ltd., agent "Reno" Hyperphosphate Fertilizers Potato Marketing Board Island Co-op. Services P. J. Kennedy & Co. R. T. Holman Ltd. MacFarlane Produce Co.

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