

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"  
 Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by The Thompson Company Limited.  
 Editor and Manager, Ian A. Burnett.  
 Associate Editor, Frank Walker.  
 Branch offices at Summerside, Montague and Alberton. Authorized Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.  
 By Carrier: Charlottetown, Summerside \$15.00 per annum. Elsewhere in P. E. I. \$9.00. Other Provinces and U. S. A. \$12.00 per annum.  
 "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest link."

The Wages Of Communism

Communist propaganda aimed at the outside world tends always to place a great deal of emphasis on the Kremlin's achievements in raising the living standards of the Russian people. A comparison by The New York Times of current prices in Moscow and New York for eighteen staple food items effectively gives the lie to such propaganda.

If calculated at official exchange value of the ruble, which is 25 cents, some current Moscow food prices are \$4.83 for a pound of coffee, \$2.27 for a pound of sugar, \$3.76 a dozen for eggs, and 73 cents for a quart of unpasteurized and unbottled milk. The Soviet price of sugar, converted at the official exchange rate, is more than ten times the New York price. Tea and white bread appear to be the only commodities which are priced about the same in Moscow and in New York.

Since the average Soviet worker earning about 70 rubles, \$175 a month, has to pay these prices, it would seem that the wages of Communism, compared with those of capitalism, are exceptionally low.

Award For Walking

Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court is not only a top-notch jurist; he is a first-rate walker as well. He has hiked over all kinds of roads, climbed all types of mountains, in all sorts of weather and in almost every corner of the globe. The other day the National Association of Chiropractors recognized the learned jurist's fondness for foot travel and presented him with a statuette of a foot with wings. The citation that went with it noted that "Justice Douglas, in demonstrating the motor potential of the pedal extremities, has shown the true meaning of good foot health which recreational outdoor activity can bring."

The pity is that the good example set by Mr. Justice Douglas is accorded a very small measure of popular support. The truth of the matter is that, in this day of high speed, walking any further than a few yards at a time is considered to be a little less than respectable. Our machines have taken such hold upon us that legs and feet seem to be headed for obsolescence. It has been predicted that if man's fondness for mechanical travel keeps on increasing in intensity, the children of the future—say, a couple of hundred years from now—will be born without any "motor potential of the pedal extremities."

It may be that this official recognition of a judge who likes to walk will call public attention to the physical and mental value of an almost forgotten art; if so, the National Association of Chiropractors will have rendered a good social service.

Canada's Foreign Trade

Concern is expressed in the current News Letter of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce at the increasing effect of foreign trade on Canada's economic life. With an adverse balance of trade with the United States of 767 million dollars and one of 215 million dollars altogether in the world in 1953, the situation is becoming serious. A development of the post-war period has been the increasing dependence of Canada on the United States as a market for her exports and this was abundantly clear last year, for, although total shipments of exports to the United States increased to nearly 2 1/2 billion dollars—equivalent to some 60% of our total exports—imports from the United States increased by 250 millions to over 3.2 billion dollars, resulting in the colossal trade deficit of 767 million dollars compared with 628 millions in 1952.

In view of the decline in our world exports and the large deficit on merchandise trade accounts, it may seem surprising to some that the Canadian economy shows such strength, and that the Canadian dollar continues to sell at a premium. This is explained by the fact that foreign capital, much of it from the United States, attracted by the long term favourable outlook for the Canadian economy, continues to flow into Canada in substantial volume, the net inflow last year being some 450 millions.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce believes that government quotas, restrictions and state ventures into the trading field can never substitute for the free and natural growth of trade developed by private traders. Experience with governmen-

tal trade restrictions and state trading since the end of World War II, has been unsatisfactory. Such restrictions increase the cost of imports to a country because they force the importing country to buy its goods from less attractive and usually high-cost sources. It is recommended that continued governmental and private efforts must be made through all channels to promote a return to multilateral trade, a free flow of capital throughout the world, and the free convertibility of currencies.

Another Disillusionment

The busy bee, it seems, is really a hopped-up dope fiend. That, at any rate, is the charge levied against the hitherto reputable branch of the Anthophila known as the Apis mellifica or hive-bee. It is really too bad that reputations have to be smirched by busy-bodies, in this case Dr. Colin Butler, head of a bee research project at Rothamsted, the agricultural research centre near St. Albans in England, founded by Sir J. Bennet Lawes.

Dr. Butler reports, in his newly published, "The World of the Honeybee", that a queen bee controls her subjects by turning them into dope addicts which have to come to her for their supply. The "dope" is a kind of wax which covers the queen bee's body. Worker bees get the stuff directly from her or from other bees that have been in contact with her.

It is all very disturbing. For thousands of years men have been told to admire bees as the epitome of the virtues of industry, frugality, responsibility and housekeeping. It is shocking to think that all the time the "hive of industry" has been something in the nature of a blind for the most disreputable goings-on.

Bad enough that men should pretend to virtues that they do not possess, but that an insect should have kept up a front for century after century and got away with it is to say the least astonishing. There is something naive about the chameleon's attempts at deception. They never fooled anybody and rather endeared him to those far more intelligent creatures who watched his pitiful attempts to look like something he was not. The very success of the bee, however, in maintaining his imposture shakes the very foundation of the integrity of the insect world.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Ascension Day; Holy Thursday.

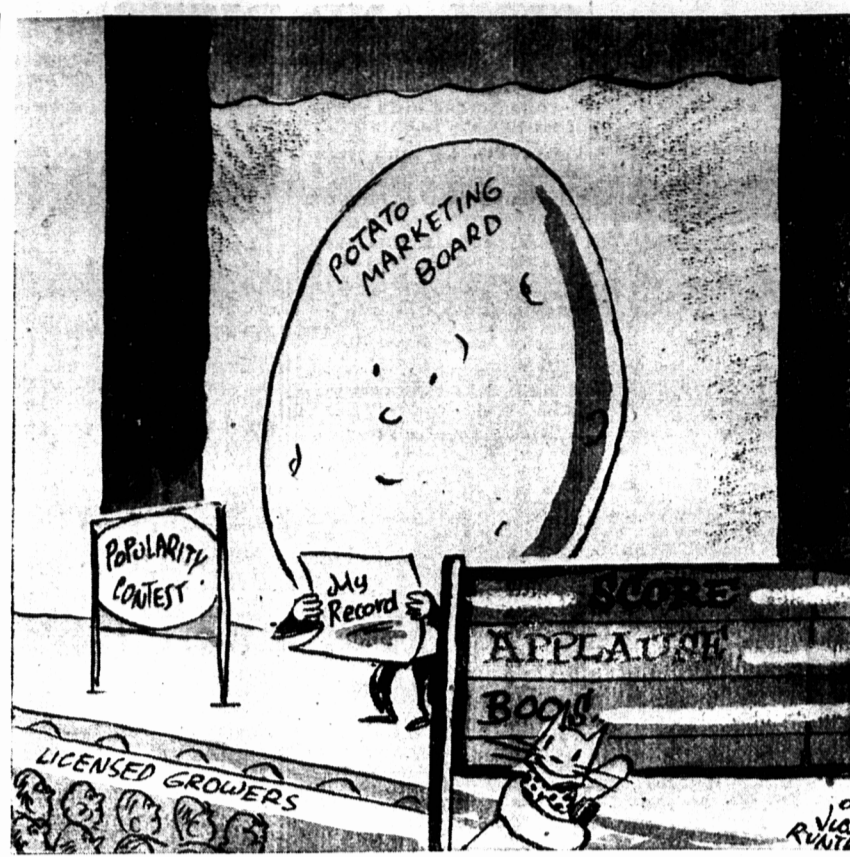
Two Canadians each gave \$100,000 to the Save-the-Abbey fund which realized its objective of £1,000,000 to preserve Westminster Abbey. Sir James Dunn and J. W. McConnell made their contributions early and greatly stimulated the movement.

Public Works Minister Robert H. Winters is trying to promote sales of Canadian cod and other products in Mediterranean countries. The cod fishery was the original great source of wealth in this part of the world and it can still, if properly developed, contribute substantially to the national income and to raising the standard of nutrition of the world.

That turboprops rather than jets will be the commercial aircraft of the future is the prediction of Dr. A. C. Russell, chief designer for the British Aeroplane Company. Delivering the Wilbur Wright Memorial Lecture, Dr. Russell pointed out that although limited to something like 500 m.p.h. the turboprop aircraft will be "smaller, lighter, and more versatile than any other kind", and offer the possibility of greater economy as forecast improvements become realities. Canada will get her first 15 turboprops in September, with 83 more to follow.

The first Handel Festival was held this date 1784, a quarter of a century after the death of the great composer. He had a remarkable ability to divorce his genius for musical composition from the turmoil of a hectic life and produced much of his most effective work at times when all circumstances seemed to conspire against that particular expression. An exception seems to have been his great oratorio "Messiah", during the composition of which in less than a month he underwent a profound religious experience.

Owing to the recent earthquakes which have stricken two districts in Greece, fears have been expressed concerning the fate of the archaeological treasures of the country. Happily not one of the famous archaeological sites of Greece is situated within the susceptible geological districts. The city of Athens in which are centered the most wonderful monuments and richest museums, has never been afflicted with earthquakes owing to the geological formation of its subsoil. In the principal ancient sacred places such as Delphi, Olympia, Epidavros, and Delos as well as in the archaeological districts of Myconos, Argos, Mystra, Sparta, Crete, and Mount Athis, not even the slightest earthquake tremor has been felt.



Well Now?

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.

THE POTATO PLEBISCITE

Sir,—During the past several weeks public meetings have been held throughout the Province and every opportunity has been given those who favor and oppose the continued operation of the present Potato Marketing Board, to publicly express their views. It is only proper that such should be the case and I have deemed it a great privilege to be able to talk to so many individual farmers at these meetings and to give a true and proper account of the Board's efforts on their behalf during the past four years.

We have heard it stated from many sources that until the second last meeting, at Prince of Wales College, the discussions regarding the forthcoming plebiscite were of a very high order and reflected credit on those taking part. However, at the last two meetings a different trend seemed to develop and certain spokesmen sought to direct attention on vague and imaginary suppositions rather than the recorded facts. These efforts were further enlarged by certain advertisements appearing in your paper on May 22nd and again on May 26th. For these reasons I feel it is my duty to make some reply to the allegations contained in the advertisement sponsored by the P. E. I. Potato and Turnip Dealers Association in your last issue, and in order to avoid utilizing too much of your valuable space, I will make reference only to several incorrect statements contained therein, knowing full well that these statements to which I will refer are a true indication of what the whole document contains.

It is well known that the late Mr. Boulter spent years of effort in trying to correct in part the U. G. tariff problem. It is also well known that an organization of growers provided the brains and finances for such an effort. It is common knowledge that the same organization first developed many new seed and tubercle potato markets. The fact that these markets have been, and still are being, maintained clearly indicates the valuable work originally accomplished by a growers' organization and proves that the basic principle adopted and implemented by the potato industry, have very well stood the test of time.

It was positively the potato growers themselves who agreed upon and allocated a levy of 1-2¢ per 100 pounds, later increased to 1¢ per 100 pounds, to be paid by the grower, for the purpose of promotional work, and district control. This fact that their efforts were going to be subsidized in part by the collection agencies was not expected. At the present time a substantial part of growers' license fees, amounting to many thousands of dollars, are being used for the very purpose for which the fund was first intended. Yes, it is claimed that the selling agency is efficient. Such would not have been the case if the advice of certain dealers had been followed when it was established. The staff has capably handled the largest volume of business ever transacted by any organization in this Province. It is not surprising that their successful efforts have amazed those who could not attain such accomplishments themselves.

It is alleged that the selling agency sold large quantities of potatoes to certain speculators at one time and that other customers were charged extra. The record shows, and all dealers should know, that when prices were going up in the trade, they were given an equal opportunity of purchasing supplies at those price levels if they so desired. The allegation that loads were sold to one large corporation at lower prices is equally untrue. In fact, it is well known that the Selling Agency was able to dispose of large quantities of potatoes direct to the largest buyers in the United States at price levels higher than other local dealers of their customers were prepared to pay.

The public know that the actions of their Board have become public knowledge at the earliest possible

NOTES BY THE WAY

The federal government is taking a constructive step in calling for a handful of adventurous Canadians—to be known as Northern Service officers—who will be charged with the responsibility of giving practical leadership to the Eskimo people in six separate regions, and of giving guidance to the administration at Ottawa. The experiment will be watched with close interest by those who feel that all Canada has a responsibility for the welfare of a race faced with the difficulties of economic and social transition. —Ottawa Journal.

The Royal Air Force is installing a "television map" system at its traffic control centres. The system has been especially designed to enable controllers to see at a glance the position of jet aircraft in distress. The system works in the following way. Radio signals from the aircraft which are picked up on an airfield direction-finding set and converted to bearings, are fed by landline to the control centre. Here, bearings from two or more of these stations in different parts of the country are shown on the television map, and the controller knows that the aircraft's position is at intersection of the bearings. The controller can see at a glance where the aircraft is, and can then direct it to an appropriate airfield. —UK Aircraft Constructors.

The city of Saint John is preparing to mark an important date in its story, the 350th anniversary

of the discovery and naming of the St. John River. That mighty waterway, with its reversing falls, must have thrilled the heart of Samuel de Champlain and his gallant voyageurs when they chanced upon it on June 24, 1604. It was then at the height of its summer luxuriance. Swaying pines and maple, birch and spruce hid here and there an Indian wigwam where campfires lurked into a lazy, cloud-swept sky. And from a flower-decked, fern-scattered foreground, inquisitive birds and forest denizens watched the approach of an unfamiliar contingent from over the seas. Champlain remembered that it was John the Baptist's Day and he gave that majestic river a name it has retained ever since. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I. GOVERNMENT HOUSE TAX

"A bill has passed the House of Assembly, imposing a tax upon land of two shillings for every hundred acres in the Townships, and one penny an acre in the three Royalties. It is calculated to yield a revenue of £1,600 a year, which in three years will produce a sufficient fund to build a house for the residence of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to which purpose it is to be appropriated. No tax could be imposed of a more deservedly popular nature than this, which tends to make the proprietors of the soil contribute in some small degree to the improvement of the Island, instead of leaving every public burden to be borne solely by the resident population." —P. E. I. Register, April 22, 1828.

Every major decision has been placed before the growers for their approval. Can the P. E. I. Potato and Turnip Dealers Association say the same? Nevertheless, the Board has sought to protect the better element in the Island potato trade from cut-throat destructive competition which could ultimately destroy them. The Board will continue to give similar protection to those dealers who are worthy of such consideration.

We could confidently answer every other allegation contained in the advertisement already referred to. However, such is unnecessary. We feel prepared to leave the decision with the producers of the Province, as we have learned from experience that they can be depended on to properly decide who will best serve their interests.

I am, Sir, etc., DONALD A. MACDONALD, Chairman and Manager, P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board and P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board Selling Agency.

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THE POET'S CORNER

ON THE BEACH  
 My life is like a stroll upon the beach,  
 As near the ocean's edge as I can go;  
 My lady steps its waves sometimes o'erreach,  
 Sometimes I stay to let them overflow.

My sole employment 'tis, and scrupulous care,  
 To place my gains beyond the reach of tides—  
 Each smoother pebble and each shell more rare,  
 Which Ocean kindly to my hand confides.

I have but few companions on the shore;  
 They scorn the strand who sail upon the sea;  
 Yet oft I think the ocean they've sailed o'er,  
 Is deeper known upon the strand to me.

The middle sea contains no crimson dulce,  
 Its deeper waves cast up no pearls to view;  
 Along the shore my hand is on its pulse,  
 And I converse with many a shipwrecked crew.

The Age Old Story

At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer  
 COMMENCEMENT

Through the kind invitation of a distinguished alumnus of St. Dunstan's College I was privileged to attend the Commencement exercises of that useful institution. At one time and another I have been present at a good many such functions and so far as the mechanics are concerned, one is pretty much the same as another. The academic procession, the executive reports, bestowal of degrees, speeches, congratulations, expressions of hope, and admissions of failure. These are the mechanics which, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, change not.

Behind the mechanics are the intangibles which express the soul of each particular institution; and it is these which one seeks to recognize and appraise amid the routine and carefully drawn plans of Commencement.

The big Universities and Colleges are not, necessarily enslaved, by over-grown secularism, for are the small ones necessarily dedicated to the propagation of spiritual values. As a matter of simple history some of the great institutions of learning on this continent, perhaps the majority of them, were founded on one of another interpretation of the Christian evangel; and even now, despite the pressure of secular forces, the original idea is not dead.

Whether or not it will mean very much in the over-all picture of liberal education, it is worth noting that quite a few of the larger Universities are now establishing seminars of religion and ethics which, in the opinion of some educators, will help to give fresh vigor and added meaning to the study of the humanities.

On the other hand, there are plenty of small regional colleges which provide little or no room for non-secular values.

Perhaps it is right to say that the chief value of St. Dunstan's and similar colleges is not that they specialize in non-secular studies but that they buttress the secular ones with uncompromising, out-in-the-open religious convictions. In the case of St. Dunstan's, I would say, this is its greatest Centennial strength. No doubt its homogeneous character—always more easily sustained in the small institution than in the large one—has had something to do with it; nevertheless, one feels that here is one institution where every subject in the curriculum—even cold mathematics—has been given a moral and religious slant for a hundred years. Apparently, it has not suffered any great damage in the process.

It would be easy enough for a college like St. Dunstan's, with its emphasis on religion, not to say eclecticism, to regulate pure scholarship to the status of a second-hand commodity. It is clear that this has not happened; somehow—perhaps not too easily at times—it has kept faith and learning on good terms with each other. There can be no greater achievement than that.

As I was making for one of the exits, the ceremony being over, I heard someone say: "Well, they (meaning the graduates) haven't much to look forward to!" This melancholy view is, of course, quite common. Wherever two or more meet together, these days of a new generation, despair, gloom and the universal dread it symbolizes have cast a dark shadow across our ways. Even in a ceremony dedicated to the first scholastic achievements of youth and to the inborn hopes of a new generation, despair, anxiety, and frustration—all unnatural to the young—are very much in evidence.

It is, of course, right and wise and seemly that young men and women, about to assume definite responsibilities in a free society, should be warned of the dangers ahead; but I am sure it can be overdone. One pleasant thing about St. Dunstan's 100th Commencement was that the dangers facing the civilized world were not described in all their lurid details. The emphasis was not so much on the danger of materialism gone wild—which is the basis of Communism—as on the positive spiritual values, girded with faith, which alone can save the world.

The thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts, and it is a pity to attempt to restrict them by the exigencies of any particular crisis. The first instinct of the young bears the name of "hope". Neither danger nor safety means much in itself; and in challenge youth sees glory. Far better than their elders they know how to pluck the flower, safely, out of the greatest danger. Their methods are perhaps more theoretical than practical; but what does that matter?

"If I could have one wish," said an old philosopher of another day, "it would be that I might recapture that moment of the long ago when I saw nothing ahead of me but a straight way and nothing above me but the stars." Some will say that this sentiment represents what is known in these psychiatry-conscious days as "escapism", a word with uneasy connotations. As a matter of fact, a place of escape, provided it is not converted into a permanent dwelling—is of considerable value. The world is too much with us.

As young men and women go out into prosaic society, taking with them their poetic thoughts and their certificates of the first step in learning, it does no harm to be told that there are times and occasions when the lonely, theoretical when is a good place to be. It brings no dishonour; it may renew one's strength.

**TERRORISTS SLAIN**  
 NAIROBI, Kenya (Reuters)—East African headquarters announced Monday that 124 Mau Mau terrorists were killed last week and eight others were captured or wounded. Two white men and 26 loyal natives were killed in various terrorist attacks.

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