

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION
"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"
"The strongest memory is weaker than
the weakest ink."
CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1953

Hog Prices

The price of hogs is notoriously subject to wide variations, exceeded perhaps by the variation in the volume of production. There is some consolation, therefore, in figures reported at the annual feeders' day at the University of Alberta. With allowance for local variation they are still encouraging to the swine grower.

During a 35-year period the University maintained a herd which farrowed some 15,000 pigs and conducted more than 150 swine feeding experiments. Costs have been carefully watched and the pigs paid all overhead expenses, including interest on breeding stock, buildings and equipment, took care of depreciation, paid a labour return and marketing charges and still provided an increase of 63 per cent in the value of barley marketed as pork rather than grain.

During this period there was a margin of approximately \$6.50 per hog between the cost of production and the selling price. In only two years, 1924 and 1932, did the average cost of production exceed the selling price, although the selling price of basic grade hogs on a 100 lb. live weight basis varied from \$3.45 in 1932 to \$25.36 in 1951.

If a University could make a profit 33 years out of 35 on pigs kept for experimental purposes there would seem to be good reason for thinking that the same can be done by those in the business for profit.

Population Figures

As noted in these columns yesterday, increasing population in recent years is given as a major factor in Canada's teacher supply problem. Over the last decade, this increase has amounted to 21.7 per cent. The *Sarnia Observer*, however, has some qualifying facts to add to this figure. In the first place, it is unfortunate that citizens of British origin are not maintaining their percentage position. They slipped back 1/8 per cent. Those of French origin did something better. They gained .5 per cent. But that still left our native population — British and French — percentage-wise, some 1/3 per cent less than in 1941. Their place was taken by people of European stock who increased .4 per cent of the total and by Asiatics and others who increased by .9 per cent.

Canada needs citizens and must secure them. But the fact that our native population is not maintaining itself in a growing population is a matter for concern. Another factor is that our working population is not maintaining itself. While the percentage increase in total population between 1941-51 was 21.7 per cent, increase in the group of workers and earners was only 15 per cent. Even this gain was mainly a matter of conservation.

We had further decreased infant mortality, so that in the childhood group to age 15, we had shown a gain of 32.9 per cent. And in the age group, 65 and up, we had done even better with a gain of 41.4 per cent. Both give cause for pride. But there is a sobering aspect. In the last decade some 45.3 per cent of the population gain was represented in the working, producing group, but 54.7 per cent was in the dependent group. What difficulties may arise as demands expand and the percentages of burden-bearing backs declines, is anybody's guess.

The Royal Power

In the periodical "London Calling" Sir Harold Nicholson, a former member of the Parliament of the United Kingdom and a writer of distinction, examines on the basis of laws and customs the authority in government which rests on the Sovereign.

The Act of Settlement of 1701, fixing the line of succession to the Throne, "established the principle," to quote Sir Harold, "that ministers should be 'responsible' for the acts of the Sovereign . . . an all-important principle, since it established that the Sovereign can perform no political act whatsoever except on the 'advice' of a minister responsible to Parliament."

But there are circumstances in which the Sovereign must act on his or her own judgment, and Sir Harold makes this comment:

"The undisputed occasion is when a prime minister possessing a majority in the

House of Commons dies or resigns. The Sovereign is the only person who can constitutionally decide who shall be his successor. If the government party is defeated in an election and the prime minister resigns, then obviously the Sovereign must send for the leader of the victorious opposition. But if a prime minister dies or resigns at a time when his party possesses a majority in the House of Commons, and if there are several alternative candidates qualified to succeed him, then only the Sovereign can decide who among those candidates must be selected.

"Thus if Sir Winston Churchill resigned tomorrow, it would be the Queen only who could decide whether to send for Mr. Eden, Mr. Butler, or some other leading Conservative. She would be entitled, of course, to consult the elder statesmen, her privy councillors, and to sound the feeling of the House of Commons. But the ultimate decision would rest upon her alone.

"The second occasion, to my mind, would arise if a prime minister possessing a majority in the existing House of Commons decided to establish a dictatorship by passing a bill perpetuating his own power. I hold the theory that in such circumstances the Queen would be constitutionally entitled, and indeed obliged under her Coronation oath, to refuse her assent to such a bill and thus to force this unscrupulous man to appeal to the country at a general election."

"In theory at least," observes the writer, "the Sovereign, or her representative the Governor General, stands in exactly the same position in regard to Commonwealth constitutions as to the United Kingdom constitution. In practice the application of this theory may vary according to local conditions at the time."

EDITORIAL NOTES

There are few things more tasty than barbecued chicken and no doubt those fortunate enough to be at the Charlottetown Experimental Station will now be dreaming of setting up their own barbecue pits.

In this day when "press agents" are supposed to work miracles it is refreshing to have the reminder of a speaker at the Maritime Chief Constables' Association that good public relations "is nine-tenths doing and one-tenth talking."

Charlottetown physicians have shown common sense and a spirit of co-operation in arranging for a doctor to be on call through the hospitals on Sundays and holidays. Without some such arrangement individual doctors carry far more than their fair load and the public is disgruntled at being unable to contact a doctor in case of emergency.

New Jersey will probably save a million dollars a year by ending the annual registration of automobiles, according to an official from the State. The further advantage of permanent registration is that it makes it practical for the registration numbers to be published and available to police and others. Only a supplementary annual volume need be supplied showing new registrations and transfers of ownership.

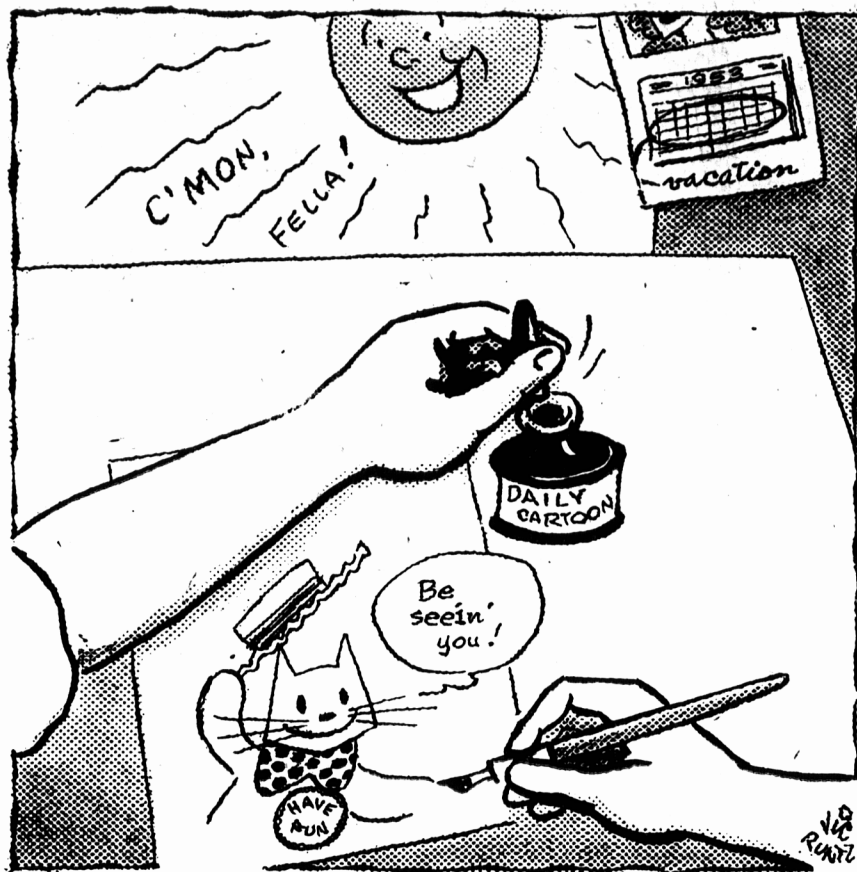
Ten years ago today General Sir Harold Alexander's Allied 15th Army Group, comprising the U. S. Seventh Army under Maj. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., and the British-Canadian Eighth Army under General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, invaded Sicily to gain the first foothold in Europe. The quality of the fighting may be gauged from the fact that in the conquest of Sicily there were 165,000 casualties inflicted on the Axis but only 7,000 prisoners taken.

In the midst of a great oversupply of many foodstuffs, American farmers are now facing a serious drought. The southwestern plains, parts of the midwest and even some of the east face drought damage while insects and storms have also caused serious loss. In this Province we can be thankful that lack of rainfall seldom becomes acute. Insects, however, require unceasing vigilance to keep at bay.

Says the London Free Press: "In Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, a testimonial dinner was given by the P. E. I. Medical Society to Dr. R. J. MacDonald, 95 years of age, who has been practicing medicine for 65 years as a family doctor. We expect the MacDonalds who settled in Eastern Canada to be hardy men but surely this must be a record. And what a record! The family doctor is less in evidence than he used to be, and we are the loser for he was a neighbor, philosopher, father confessor and confidant as well as physician. He had time for the personal touch which plays a greater part in the healing art than some modernists might care to admit."

Against the background of the major events of these 165 years this may seem a trivial matter, and so it is. Yet to say so is to reckon without the fervour that is generated every time these cricketers from Australia land on our shores — it happens usually every four years. People whose interest in cricket has hitherto been no more than lukewarm find it suddenly hot and, and those who have been keen enough all along become something like fanatics. Even many who have scarcely been

Corking It Again



Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON: England:— Stop people at random in the streets of England at the present time and inquire of them: "Who is Willie Watson?" Then, too, ask them: "Who is Aneurau Bevan?" Senator MacCarthy? . . . or any other prominent figure on the world's stage. The result would be an interesting — though I have not tried it — experiment in the assessment of current popular values.

Well, who is Willie Watson? He is the idol of practically every small boy (and not a few small girls); he is the hero who rose to an occasion recently to fight for his country in a valiant rearguard action; on June 30th he, in the words of more than one responsible newspaper, "saved England." And as "the man who saved England," Willie Watson's name will be reverberated in the hearts of true Englishmen for a very long time.

But he will get no medals. There was some light-hearted talk of a knighthood, but this arose in the first flush of exuberance after the deed and was neither meant nor taken seriously. As well to keep the "saved England" title, for whilst it is true enough that Willie Watson saved England when all seemed lost, the affair was not after all of such great moment as might appear. It was all a game, and our hero is a cricketer.

The scene was Lord's cricket ground in London, and when I wrote of that hallowed arena a couple of months ago neither I nor anyone else knew what drama was to be enacted on the turf that sultry day at the end of June. It was the final day of a Test Match, between England and Australia, those traditional rivals between whom on these occasions no quarter is asked and none given.

At the beginning of play on this last day all England was in despair. Our team was facing overwhelming defeat. The details are unimportant. Sufficient to say that the odds seemed quite hopeless. It was long odds that they would need only an hour or two.

But Willie Watson was one of those who remained, and he refused to be disposed of. He had started his innings towards the end of the previous day, and so began batting again on this late morning; and he batted on, and on and on all through the day until within an hour of the end. It was then too late for the Australians to clinch the victory that had seemed theirs for the taking. Only those who have seen an Australian Test team on the rampage, with the scent of victory in their nostrils, can know what Watson was up against; and only those who know what an England - versus - Australia Test Match means to Englishmen can estimate the debt that England feels it owes to this fair haired young Yorkshireman.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

GIFT TO ST. PAUL'S

"The noble Dowager Countess of Westmorland has recently made a present to St. Paul's Church of a handsome Utrecht velvet covering for the Communion Table, with emblems embroidered in gold lace, etc., thus evincing that her Ladyship has still an affectionate remembrance of the Island, and is disposed to manifest it in a praiseworthy manner."
—Royal Gazette, Oct. 6, 1843.

aware of cricket (and there are a few, despite popular belief to the contrary) find themselves infected by the prevailing fever.

Fever it must be that causes spectators to line up outside the grounds where the matches are to be played many hours before play is due to begin; that makes hundreds, indeed, turn up the day before and spend the night outside the gates notwithstanding the fact that if it rains they will not only get wet but there will be no play for them to watch anyway.

The stranger who goes to the match will find little clue, as he watches, to the reason for this magnetism. Each game lasts five days, or whatever shorter time is required to bring things to a conclusion. Few of us can spare the time to see the affair through from beginning to end; one day or two is the maximum ration for most of us. At the time of writing these lines two matches have been played. No conclusion was reached in either of them — both were "drawn," which is the official result given when five days proves insufficient for a win to be gained by either side. Five games make up the series, and it is entirely possible that all five would be played and all five drawn.

Yet this would be considered too unreasonable. Only the unhappy (in English eyes) folk to whom cricket is "only a game" would think it surprising that men should travel 12,000 miles across the world, and 12,000 miles back again, leaving things precisely as they found them. And, going back to Willie Watson, nor is there the least call for surprise in the thought that should that very thing happen, he became a hero for his part in maintaining the status quo.

The Poet's Corner

THE CALL

The sun goes down beyond the purple fell,
A wind has blown the lark into a cloud;
One backward look will serve to say farewell
To the dark valley that my father's ploughed.
The house they built is empty. I must go
Over the twilight moorland till I find
The breast of eve where I may learn to know
What thing it is that gives men peace of mind.
The last light trembles in the far-ther air,
This is the night, the hour I dare not lose;
A hand has beckoned me, I know not where,
A voice has spoken but I know not whose.

—Edward Davison.

The Age Old Story

He that glorioth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

No Eggs Today

(Christian Science Monitor)

The art of government is not unrelated to the art of mystification. Hard facts are presented to the electorate in soft words; simple facts are presented to whom it may concern in a legalistic verbiage calculated to bewilder the wits of uninitiate.

We are moved to this observation by a bit of officialese that has come to our desk from South Africa — the match of anything we have seen from the jungles of Washington or the wide Potomac valley:

"With the approval of the Minister, the board may from time to time prohibit any person or any person belonging to any class or group of persons or any person other than a person belonging to any class or group of persons from acquiring, selling, or disposing of

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JEWELLERS FOR FOUR GENERATIONS

Notes By The Way

A shining symbol of British leadership in jet propulsion, the Comet streaked into Vancouver this week, only 76 minutes out of Calgary, leaping the mountain barrier at 38,000 feet and 450 miles per hour.—Vancouver Province.

It has always been Miss Helen Keller's dream to plead the cause of the blind on every continent of the world. She has returned from South America, where she has instigated new schools for the blind and deaf in Chile, achieved measures for the training and employment of blind workers in Brazilian industry, and modernized teaching methods for the blind in Rio de Janeiro. There she ranks with Louis Braille as a benefactor of people who have lost—or have never had—their sight, and her recent tour was responsible for the establishment of a Braille printing plant in Mexico City for the benefit of the unsighted in Central America.—St. John Telegraph Journal.

Tribes which still live by hunting wild animals are regarded by the rest of the world as eccentrically primitive. But the habit of hunting wild fish at considerable trouble and expense, persists in many civilized communities. In the last few years there has been an appreciable move towards the farming of fish, which was not uncommon in Europe in the Middle Ages and has been little practised since except in parts of the Far East. This experimental work has been done mainly in Africa, and the results obtained seem to sustain Dr. E. B. Worthington's dictum that more protein can be got from an acre of water than from an acre of land. For example, an account of fish-farming in Tanganyika is given in the April issue of "Corona", the Colonial service journal.

any quantity of eggs." There, we submit, is a rhetorical tour de force that should be preserved for posterity. Who says that the language of bureaucracy is lacking in poetry, drama, or a sense of the ultimate mysteries? Poised on that splendid crescendo of prohibitions, nestled among all those unfortunate, unprivileged persons in or out of groups and classes, hidden at the quiet heart of that explosion of gobbleygook we find the small, incontestable, strangely pathetic emptiness where an egg ought to be.

It has been found that a species of tilapia will yield, after nine months' growth, about a ton of fish from an acre of shallow water; an acre of grazing is estimated to produce about 300 pounds of beef, under good conditions, in the same time.—Manchester Guardian.

Dr. Karl Stern, professor of psychiatry at the University of Ottawa, gives two entirely logical reasons for the large amount of mental ailments and nervous troubles now prevailing. One is that humans have not yet adjusted themselves to the pace of urban life. The other, loss among mankind of a spiritual foundation. There possibly is an association between these two causes. The industrial revolution was more than a revolution in productive processes. It was a revolution in the way of life of millions of mankind. The advance in techniques and methods has been more rapid than the adjustment of mankind to that development. Loss of spiritual faith is evident among individuals and among nations. A large part of the world has deliberately set about to ignore spiritual values; to make a religion of a material philosophy. Human beings are being forced into living in an environment, local and international, alien to a peaceful mind. Many nervous systems crack under the strain.—Windsor Star.

One of the best ways to avoid becoming another statistic in the accidental death records is to have a life preserver or buoyant cushion near every time you go boating. Swim only when you have companions in the water. Avoid rough waters. Don't swim after eating. Probably the best rule, however, is the simple one of learning how to swim. Too many people venture out in boats who have no water experience whatsoever. In their panic should a boat tip, they often drag good swimmers down with them. Let's be sensible about this thing. If you can't swim keep off the lakes and rivers until you can, or make sure there is something handy to keep you afloat if something should happen.—North Bay Nugget.

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