

# The Guardian

Covers Price Edward Island Like The Rest  
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"The strongest member of weaker than the weakest link"  
PAGE 8 MONDAY, MAY 18, 1962

## Every Knock A Boost

Our old friend the Winnipeg Free Press simply can't take its mind off Prime Minister Diefenbaker's pledge to build a \$108,000,000 causeway for Prince Edward Island. The more it thinks about the hotter it gets under the collar, and the more stridently it denounces the whole scheme as a "brazen political bribe." The Tories, it complains, have got a lot of mileage out of their causeway pledges; but it notes sarcastically that the Prime Minister "hasn't said when the work will start." This comment appeared just before Mr. Diefenbaker announced in Charlottetown when he expected the work would be completed. But is that going to satisfy our Winnipeg contemporary? Not by a long shot.

It recalls scathingly "the 1957 and 1958 campaigns when the Conservatives baited their election hook with an engineering survey to look into the feasibility of a causeway." Actually, the hook was baited—if you want to call it that—by the Liberals before the Tories took office. But Mr. Diefenbaker has been claiming credit for initiating the project, and the Free Press, for its own part, subscribes to this piece of Tory fiction.

It stumbles from one ludicrous error into another. It charges that back in the election campaign of 1911 Mr. Borden, as Conservative leader, was equally unscrupulous in telling Prince Edward Islanders that "it is the duty of the government to ascertain by a survey whether a tunnel is reasonably feasible and possible," and if so to build it. "It was not built, of course," says the Free Press, "for which, no doubt, Mr. Diefenbaker is duly grateful. Had a tunnel been feasible, today's Conservatives would have been deprived of a prime piece of Island election bait."

Of course, what Mr. Borden did say at that time, besides offering to make an inquiry into the tunnel scheme which proved unfeasible, was to promise us a railway car ferry service as a surer alternative. He promised to do this, and he did it; and the making of the Town of Borden, the Island terminal for the service, testifies to the gratitude with which we received this greatest boon that had been bestowed upon us since Confederation.

By linking Mr. Diefenbaker's pledges with the Borden record for promise-keeping in this Province, the Winnipeg Liberal organ has made its wildest pass of all. It couldn't have given the Tories of today a better boost if they had paid for it.

## A Threat To Freedom

Press freedom as the first thing a dictatorial government seeks to abolish, and one of the surest evidences of incipient dictatorship is the tendency shown by a ruling power in this direction. Even Commonwealth countries are not immune from this danger, as is revealed at the present time in Ceylon. There press censorship was introduced last year, and now a long-threatened Press Bill, giving still more drastic powers to the ministry, is about to be introduced in parliament.

Under the provisions of this bill the two principal newspaper publishing groups would be expropriated and their assets transferred to statutory corporations under gov-

ernment control. Newspapers would henceforth be closely supervised by a press council nominated by the ministry, on which no publishers or journalists would be permitted to sit.

On the report of this council publishers or editors could be fined, without trial, for publishing news alleged to be inaccurate, or news likely (however true) to cause "alarm or despondency," or "communal or religious strife." The minister in charge could also impose a "code of professional ethics," and, in default of the payment of fines imposed for disobedience to his mandates, could suspend or suppress the offending publications.

Though there is no direct provision for censorship before publication—which the minister's sweeping powers would doubtless render unnecessary—it is clear that the enactment of this bill will leave few remnants of press freedom in Ceylon.

There is in the Commonwealth a Commonwealth Press Union, made up of representative publishers and editors from all Commonwealth countries. This Union has over the years been vigilant in defense of essential press freedoms wherever, in the Commonwealth, they were threatened. It has been influential in the past in dissuading new governments from plunging headlong into press control and it has been trying to do just that in Ceylon. But apparently with little success.

Commenting on the situation, the Ottawa Journal asks what all this has to do with Canada. And it supplies a good answer. "The Commonwealth," it says, "can remain a useful entity even though its membership may be changing and its racial composition may be quite altered from years gone by. But if it loses its hold on common ideals, on common conceptions of freedom and democracy, then it can indeed become so varied as to be vagrant. Canada will hope the government of Ceylon will have another look at this Press Bill for in its present form it could have the direct consequences not only upon Ceylon but on the Commonwealth as a whole."

## Chasing Mr. Harkness

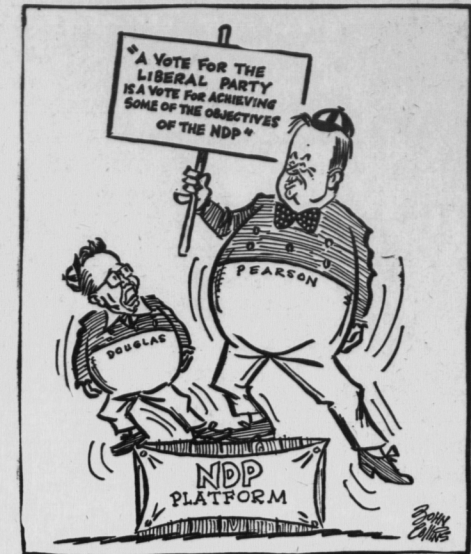
Defense Minister Harkness is not expected to lose his election in Calgary North, but he is being given a run for his money by the great-grandson of one of our Prince Edward Island Confederation Fathers. Major Harry Pope is contesting this seat as the New Democratic Party's defense expert, and he is seeking a head-on clash with Mr. Harkness which the minister has so far avoided. He has tended to ignore the determined ex-army officer's activities, perhaps on the theory that to do otherwise would give his opponent advertising that might bolster his position. But it's becoming harder to do this all the time.

This is the riding where Mr. Harkness is expected to defend his defense policies most vigorously—policies which are almost in complete disagreement with those Major Pope would like to confront him with. The major, who has a distinguished army record extending from World War II through the Korean War, insists that Canada is virtually defenseless. He opposes membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance. He wants Canada out of the North American Air Defense Command, which he regards as an exercise in futility. He is convinced that the armed forces are being trained well for the last war, if it should be fought over again, but inadequately in terms of the kind of war likely to be encountered in the 1960's.

The great defense debates haven't come off yet, and it's our guess that they won't. Mr. Harkness wasn't even in the riding for some time after the major's arrival; he was in Athens, attending a NATO council meeting. Since his return, he hasn't gone out of his way to acknowledge the presence of any of his opponents. But the Pope campaign has given the Calgary North contest a sparkle that would otherwise be lacking, and that's something the electors will appreciate whichever way they vote.

## EDITORIAL NOTE

According to the Dallas News, defatted and dried mosquitoes are now bringing \$5,455 a pound and the demand exceeds the supply. This processed pest is used in allergy tests and inoculations.



## TWEEDLETOM AND TWEEDLEMIE

### A POLYGOT PAST

### Tangier Retains Its Ancient Flavor

National Geographic Bulletin

The Arabs came in the 7th century, leaving a permanent legacy of Moslem faith and culture. But the port was too strategic to avoid Europe's power rivalries. Portugal, Spain, and England held it at various times from the 15th to the 17th century, when it reverted to the Moors.

To keep Tangier from serving any one country, international agreements regulated it from the mid-19th century. The last

Several years ago a group of Ohio pediatricians conducted vitamin B12 experiments in a slightly different way. They divided a group of children according to whether they were thin, normal, or fat. The slender children receiving the vitamin gained weight and the obese grew taller but nothing happened to the normal youngsters or to those who did not get the B12.

The product is not expensive and is harmless to take. The Ohio experiments could justify its use as a tonic.

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—The spoiled child is improperly trained.

## Human Growth Through Vitamins

### Is Uncertain

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

DOES vitamin B12 stimulate growth? Can it improve energy and appetite? These are most questions among the medical profession because the conclusions are difficult to prove or evaluate. On the other hand, the vitamin improves the growth of some agricultural animals. In addition, it is used frequently as a tonic for sickly children and convalescent adults.

Studies have been conducted on large numbers of pupils to determine whether the product increases height, weight, appetite and vigor. But the results are so inconclusive because there is not much change between the youngsters who receive the vitamin and those given a harmless sugar coated capsule (placebo).

One bottleneck is our lack of a good test of vitamin B12 deficiency. The victim of pernicious anemia does not absorb the vitamins from his stomach and suffers from anemia and degeneration of the spinal cord. These can be corrected with injections of liver or vitamin B12.

The situation is different with boys and girls. They can absorb the vitamin and, in order to develop a deficiency, must consume a poor or unbalanced diet. Since most of the foods that contain other B vitamins, it is difficult to have a deficiency of one without a deficiency of the others.

## NOTES BY THE WAY

A disgusted parent wrote a note of complaint to the teachers and wound it up with: "If all Herbert learns in school is to swear, I'll keep him home and teach him myself!" — Hamilton Spectator.

"Times are changing rapidly. Take, for instance, the old-fashioned doll. When you squeezed her she said 'Mamma, but the modern one says 'Oh Boy!'" — Galt Reporter.

A little boy was sitting in church next to an elderly lady. As the collection plate was being passed, she fumbled around in her purse but couldn't find her money. Finally the little boy tapped her on the arm excitedly, and whispered loudly: "Here, please take my money, M'am. I'll hide under the seat." — Montreal Star.

An obsolete CP-106 aircraft is being given a place of honor beside an antique steam locomotive in a North Bay park. It could be that such a resting place will be sought before long for one of those Bomarc missiles now located at the RCAF's Tech Bay base. — Ottawa Citizen.

Air travellers know that in some cases, it takes longer to travel from the city to the airport at one end of the line and from the airport to the city at the other than it does for the trip itself. The British engineers say that if 15 minutes could be cut off the highway time at each end of the run, it would be equivalent to increasing the speed of airliners on the London - Paris route from 400 to 1,000 miles an hour. — Sherbrooke Record.

## Hard Sledding At Brussels

By David Owsick  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

There's talk about a "package deal" again as British prepares for Tuesday's ministerial meeting on her application to join the European Economic Community.

Reports from Brussels say the British delegation advanced proposals for a deal this week in an attempt to get around what appears to be an impasse in the negotiations.

They come at a time when within the six-nation Common Market opinion is solidifying on the principles Britain must accept if she wants club membership.

The community six—France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg—feel their organization won't work if permanent or indefinite exceptions to the rules are permitted.

SIX ARE RELUCTANT

In more concrete terms, this means the six will be reluctant to grant any long-term arrangements to ease the pain for Commonwealth nations. The farther they appear prepared to go to the end of their own transitional period—either 1969 or 1970.

It also means that after this period Britain will have to treat Commonwealth countries as she will be expected to treat any country not a member of the European community.

It's against this background that the idea of the package deal was announced. The British proposal apparently dealt with manufacturing goods such as low-price textiles will harm their own producers.

TARIFF ABOLITION

The broad lines of approach include the reduction or abolition of community tariffs; free entry into Britain under arrangements similar to the freetrade protocol on France's trade with Morocco and Tunisia; and short-term duty-free quotas either for Britain or the whole community.

Just what Britain has offered in return for such a deal from the six has not yet been made clear. It appears, however, that the British delegation regards the maintenance of trade with underdeveloped countries as one of the key ways of assisting their development.

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