The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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PAGE 4 MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1963.

Pension Payments

As noted in our news columns on Saturday, legislation has now been introduced at Ottawa to increase to $75 from $65 the special monthly pensions to the needy aged 65-69, the blind, and the disabled. It is proposed to have the increase start with the December cheques. Along with the increase, the maximum allowable incomes will be stepped up.

The cost of these pension categories is shared by the federal and provincial governments, with Ottawa paying half of the bill for the needy aged, half for the disabled and 75 per cent for the blind. Provincial agreement to the $10 increase was obtained at the recent federal-provincial conference.

Persons earning above the new income limits are not eligible for these pensions, but the provinces may pay higher monthly pensions if they wish, bearing the entire cost of the added amount. This year Ottawa estimated its share of old age assistance would be $38,636,000, for the disabled $19,241,000 and for the blind $4,847,000.

On the more general question of the proposed federal Canada Pension Plan, Prime Minister Pearson gave assurance last week, in reply to a query by Mr. Diefenbaker, that the interests of those who are now contributing to private pension plans will be protected and that they will not lose under the new setup. This assurance will be of special interest to the members of Parliament who will be on the committee examining the Canada Pensions Plan when it is brought before Parliament, and the witnesses who appear before them. The private plans cover, among others, nearly 2,000,000 employees in Canada.

As the Ottawa Journal sees it, Mr. Pearson's guarantee covers a lot of ground. For unless the Government is offering equal pension for equal money it will not be protecting the private pension contributors against loss; and one of the contentions of insurance companies is that private pensions would cost less than Government pensions in the long run.

Not By Shameful Stealth

The annual meeting of the national Progressive Conservative Party is to be held early next year, and there is reportedly a strong feeling that Mr. Diefenbaker's leadership should be challenged at this meeting, and that a secret ballot should be held. We haven't discussed the matter with leading Conservatives here, but we think we know what their views are. They will support Mr. Diefenbaker, as will Conservatives generally in these Atlantic Provinces. His followers' revolt against him didn't emanate here, as we all know.

But on this question of a secret ballot, allegedly supported by Mr. Carl O. Mooers, president of the Young Progressive Conservatives of Canada, there is more to be said. And we find it said in forthright terms by a regular contributor to the Toronto Telegram, Mr. Edwin Mahoney, who is the paper's former Ottawa correspondent and business reporter, and who takes a dim view of the proposal.

"A test of strength sounds like an excellent idea," says Mr. Mahoney; "but in the circumstances a secret ballot would be a cowardly, dishonest, unjust procedure and unacceptable to the public generally. Mr. Diefenbaker, whatever his faults, has done his fighting, whether with Conservatives or Liberals, in the open. It behooves his Tory critics not only to vote openly on his leadership but also to speak openly and explain why they are for or against him.

"The principle of the secret ballot is not in any way involved. The humble ordinary citizen does have the right in an election to cast his ballot as he sees fit, protected by a jealously-enforced cloak of secrecy. His decision as an individual is known to no one else. But the men and women who will decide next year on John Diefenbaker's stewardship aren't ordinary individuals. They are delegates. They represent other members of their party. They represent party supporters who aren't members in a formal way. In a sense, they represent all Canadian voters, and their function in selecting a party leader has profound national importance.

"We have a right to know how each delegate, each representative at the meeting, exercises his responsibility. If thumbs are turned down on Mr. Diefenbaker, it's important to know not only how many, but which thumbs."

Moreover, this writer points out that Mr. Diefenbaker is not just another contender for a job. "He is the holder of the job and in that job, even in the last election, he won the support of millions of Canadian voters. He isn't just a party figure, he is a national figure. The party could have prevented him becoming a national figure by denying him the leadership in 1956. But having placed him where he is, they may not remove him by stealth and in shameful secrecy."

Threat To Seed Sales

If there was any doubt as to whether poisonous potato top killers should be banned in this province, as Agriculture Minister MacRae intends to propose at the next session of the Legislature, it surely must have been removed from the minds of our potato growers by the statement the minister made at a beef producers' meeting last week.

Mr. MacRae revealed that the food and drug administration in Florida has announced that if just a trace of sodium arsenate is found in even one potato shipped into that state, the entire shipment will be banned. Our marketing director, Mr. Sangster, brought this information back from his recent trip to Florida. It may be presumed that other states will follow suit, and as 30 per cent of our seed exports go to the United States, it is plain that the continued use of this chemical by potato growers here would be ruinous to the industry.

Mr. MacRae made out a convincing case against the use of this chemical in his previous statements, when he showed that it was responsible for the death of cattle, fish and wildlife and that safe substitutes are available, though at slightly higher cost.

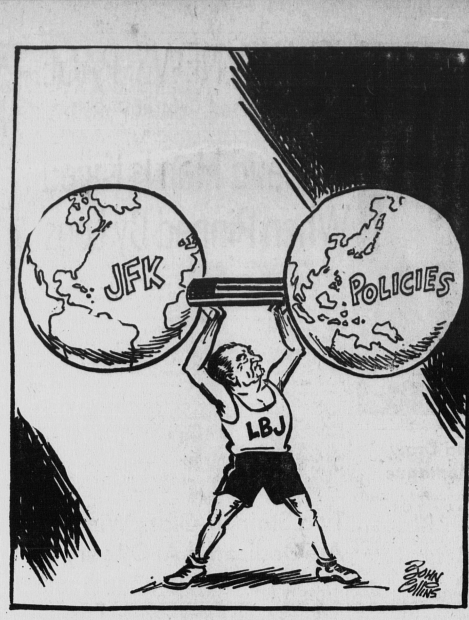
The minister is to be commended on the strong lead he has given in this matter in the interests of all concerned. The meeting at which he spoke on Thursday supported his campaign in a unanimous resolution, and it is to be hoped that our farmers generally will see it in the same light. It would be false economy indeed to ignore the dangers involved in the use of a pesticide which has fallen under such widespread condemnation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

After a two years' sag, immigration into Canada has taken a definite upward trend. Our total of 69,344 immigrants in the first nine months of the present year is nearly 13,000 more than a year ago, and not far behind the full-year totals for 1962 and 1961. Almost exactly half of the newcomers, 34,730 persons, entered the labor force and very few were workers without special training.

* * *

Former CCF Leader Coldwell was 75 on Monday of last week, and this son of Devon, raised in a family of Conservatives, continues an active life in Ottawa. "What must help keep Mr. Coldwell young" says the Ottawa Journal, "is the knowledge that proposals for better social security which brought him the accusation of being a dangerous radical in the West 30 years ago, have been approved and implemented by the old parties in federal power. He never formed a government but he has spurred governments on."



WHILE THE WORLD WAITS

WHERE EFFORTS WOULD COUNT

Tip For U.N. Student Seminars

Daily Packet and Times, Orillia, Ont.

A lot has been heard recently about students travelling to United Nations seminars. Invariably they pass resolutions concerning the peace of the world. Just as invariably these resolutions center on political issues such as the admittance of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations. It seems that, regardless of how well- meaning the efforts of these students are, they are greatly misdirected.

Like so many others the students are told of the United Nations as a political body and fail to see that its record as far as this particular function is concerned is pretty dismal. Meanwhile, however, the United Nations is performing an extremely useful and indeed vital role in solving the economic and social problems facing the world's peoples.

The voice of the students in the realm of international politics will scarcely be heard by those who have power in this arena of confusion. If instead, the students devoted their considerable talents and energies in full support of such UN agencies as UNESCO and UNICEF, their efforts would bear much more effective and rewarding fruits. Time wasted talking about world peace could better be spent feeding a starving child.

The preamble to the constitution of UNESCO states, "Since wars began in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." It is the work of UNESCO to "build peace in the minds of men". The organization does this by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture.

Where better could the energies of Canadian students receiving the best in education, partaking of the best science has to offer, attempting to understand all cultures, be spent than in projects for this far- sighted organization?

UNICEF is the second organization within the framework of the United Nations where the efforts of students would be greatly appreciated. There are few other organizations in the world that carry out with more appeal than this one, for there are few things more appealing than a child. The child is man's eternal source of inspiration and wonder and hope. Beautiful, free, idolatrous, inventive, imitative, withdrawn, inquisitive, gay, broken hearted, irresponsible— ever loving and seeking love— that is the child.

Few of us realize the terrible plight that faces children throughout the world. For instance, in a single year, 100,000,000 babies are born, three out of every four of whom will die in childhood. Malaria kills 1,000,000 babies a year in India alone. In Indonesia there were 12,000,000 cases of yaws last year. In tropical lands as many children die of leprosy in a single year. Trachoma, which can cause blindness, afflicts 400 million.

The conscience of the young student may rest uneasily because there is no peace in the Middle East. It should rest all the more uneasily because there is a starving child in India. In the former case, his actions will have little effect. In the latter case, he can help prevent that child from starving.

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. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

SHOULD BE CAREFUL

Sir,—I have just been reading "The Sun and its Family" by Irving Adler, and have come to the conclusion that we have to solve our earthly problems and emotional relationships before we can undertake to move on to solving problems concerning the "heavenly bodies" that surround the earth.

If we don't, we might upset the whole universe by sending out some emotional mishap to outer space!

I am, Sir, etc.,
BIRGIT ORNFELDT.
Murray River.

FISCAL TREATMENT

Sir,—Upon reading your paper the other day, I came across a statement by Mr. Alex. Matheson, leader of the Opposition in P.E.I., in regard to the amount of money received by Premier Shaw from Prime Minister Pearson. He more or less claims, that, if this Province had had a Liberal Government as is in Ottawa, we would have received a larger share.

May I remind, Mr. Matheson that it was not too long ago that this Province had a Liberal Government, of which he was Premier, along with a Liberal Government in Ottawa headed by the then Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent., and when he went to Ottawa to try and convince them that we needed a larger grant, he came home with a bill for one million dollars which the Federal Government said we owed them, due to an over payment to us.

May I ask what would have happened if the situation were the same this time. I shudder to think of it. We should be thankful that John Diefenbaker came along and told him to forget it. I might also add that I don't know for sure if this letter will reach your office or not, seeing that the Federal Government have a tendency of closing everything. You'll never know what's next.

I am, Sir, etc.,
AN INTERESTED VOTER
Charlottetown.

A Forgotten Fact

Fredericton Gleaner

A curious mistake is noted in pieces written since the murder of President Kennedy about an earlier tragedy. Current issues of periodicals intimate or openly state that the three previous murders of presidents were each the work of a single criminal.

In two cases this was true. No accomplices were discovered of Guiteau who shot Garfield or Czolgosz who killed McKinley.

But it was not so with Abraham Lincoln. That great man was the victim of an organized plot by Southern sympathizers seeking to throw the United States government into confusion by killing its three top executives: President Lincoln, Vice-President Andrew Johnson and State Secretary Seward.

John Wilkes Booth, who actually shot Lincoln, must be assumed to have been the instigator and ringleader of the plot, although other opinions were advanced at the time and still find expression. Like Oswald 98 years later, Booth was gunned down before he could be brought before a properly constituted court or commission.

The assassin assigned to the State Secretary wounded Seward and four members of his household, including his son who was assistant secretary. Johnson's assailant blundered in his task and the Vice- President duly assumed the higher office.

Four of the conspirators were executed and four more were sentenced to prison terms. The degrees of guilt of the eight were long a subject of controversy, and suspicion lingered that others, deeply implicated, escaped completely.

It is now the duty of the FBI and the commission appointed by President Johnson to determine into which of the categories— lonely fanatic or organized terror gang— the assassination of President Kennedy belongs.

Why Sailors Resign

Ottawa Journal

Commodore James Plomer, retired, has been heard by the Commons Defence Committee and several of the points he raised in criticism of the RCN have been answered by later witnesses. But one statement by this senior naval officer lingers uncomfortably in memory as evidence that all is not well with morale in the Navy. He said:

When I was a deputy in personnel I had many lieutenant commanders come to see me. A lot of them— and when I say a lot, I mean probably a dozen— were resigning. One particular man who was an aviator and had the reputation of being very intelligent and had rather a dour personality said, "I am worried about my career." So I said, "I will do what I can, but I cannot do very much; what is the trouble?" He said, "For heaven's sake, do not make me a commander unless you are going to make me a captain. It means I can get out in the rank of lieutenant commander now at age 45, and get another job, but if I am made commander, I stay on until 50, and would never get another job."

Hardly seems a happy service, nor a wise regulation if good men prefer to leave.

The Short And The Tall

Montreal Star

A department store has been pointing out in its advertising that people are getting bigger and that normal-sized beds are no longer large enough. It is earnestly to be hoped that this is the first step toward the liberation of one of the world's most discriminated- against minorities, the tall.

The bed situation is bad enough (and why, incidentally, should Europeans enjoy mattresses a full two metres long, some four inches more than the niggardly standard Anglo-Saxon product?) but it is soluble either by the purchase of a king-size or by jury-rigged extensions involving stools, cushions or whatnot.

It is as nothing beside the other miseries of the daily life of the tall in a world patently designed for midgets.

Consider the exquisite agony of sitting through one of those four-hour epics in the average movie theatre with the knees wedged into the gaps between the seats in front. (Sitting at the end of the row with the feet protruding into the aisle is no solution: people trip over them.)

Consider the bruising misery of crossing the Atlantic economy class with legs slewed sideways and one thigh jammed into the arm of the seat.

Brain Tumor Detection

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Tumors and other brain lesions are diagnosed in various ways. Several new procedures are being tried, including an improved radar machine. The instrument is held against the scalp and ultrasound waves are sent into the head. These echo from the opposite side of the skull and the time interval is noted. Since the normal pattern is known, a defect is suspected when the echoes are abnormal.

Radioisotopes are used to diagnose lesions of various organs, including the brain. There is a tendency for certain radioactive materials to concentrate in or about brain tumors, abscesses, and clots adjacent to the skull.

The isotope is injected into a vein, and 3 to 5 hours later the individual is placed in front of a scanning device. This instrument passes back and forth over the head and produces a record that shows whether the radioisoptopes are scattered evenly or are localized in one area.

Scanning does not pick up all tumors— X-ray continues to be the most useful diagnostic tool. In some instances, air is injected into the spinal fluid (pneumoencephalogram to visualize the ventricles of the brain. In others, a contrast solution is injected into the carotid artery and X-rays are taken almost simultaneously (an angiography). They will show up changes in the blood vessels of the brain.

Important clews are obtained also from testing the spinal fluid, a physical examination, and an electroencephalogram. The latter records the brain waves, and abnormalities excite or depress the electrical activities.

The manifestations of brain tumors vary and depend upon the portion of the brain that is compressed or otherwise disturbed by the expanding new growth. Headache is the most frequent symptom. Others include nausea, visual disorders, convulsions, mental dullness, incoordination and muscle weakness, or paralysis.

SLIMMING DIET

C. M. writes: I would like to get back into shape with a sensible diet. What would you suggest?

REPLY

The best way, if your meals are now balanced, is to eat the same things but cut the portions in half.

EXERCISE WON'T BRIGHTEN

H. S. writes: Would exercises that stimulate have any stimulating effect on the brain and make the person smarter?

REPLY

No, and if they did, most of the athletes (including wrestlers and boxers) would be professors.

ALLERGIC TENDENCY

Mrs. L. writes: My son is allergic to wheat and dust. One of our neighbours said he probably will develop hay fever as he grows older. Is this likely?

REPLY

The tendency is in that direction.

PRESSURE AND SMOKING

D. H. writes: Should a person stop smoking if his blood pressure is only 92?

REPLY

Not for this reason.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

"Happiness is the frosting on the cake of life."

—EdnaGould

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(December 9, 1938)

The Summerside Board of Trade held a meeting yesterday evening in the Town Hall, with R.S.P. Jardine presiding. A report was received from Winslow J. Lidstone, that in spite of the weather the Fox Week was a big success from an educational standpoint.

HALIFAX, Dec. 7 (CP)—Upholding the negative, two Australian college students defeated a Dalhousie University team here tonight in a debate on the resolution that nationalism is the enemy of civilization. The debate concluded the Australian's Canadian tour, during which they met only one defeat in 20 debates.

TEN YEARS AGO
(December 9, 1953)

The Young Anglican Social Club of the YMCA held a mixed bridge party last night in the banquet room of the "Y". There were 18 tables, and refreshments were served afterwards by the ladies of the club.

Oer three hundred and fifty new Canadians had a jolly time last night when they were entertained at a Community Christmas party at the Canadian Legion Home. The party was under the auspices of the Canadian Citizenship Council. In addition to the adults, about one hundred children gathered around the Christmas tree and sang Dutch songs, in a remarkably charming manner.

PROTEST BINGO LAW

OTTAWA (CP) — Kinsmen clubs across Canada submitted a brief to Justice Minister Lionel Chevrier last week appealing for revisions of the country's "obsolete, antiquated and unpopular" restrictions on gambling, particularly bingo and lotteries. The 12,000-member organization complained its service program has been severely curtailed. The brief will be turned over to a committee currently studying the particular section of the criminal code.

NOTES BY THE WAY

One advantage poor folks have is that they can pick their own friends.— Brandon Sun.

How can we doubt that there is a master plan behind history? Suppose television had been invented ten years earlier, before there were enough old movies to keep it going?—Calgary Herald.

"Did anyone in your family ever make a brilliant marriage?" "No one except my wife."— Montreal Star.

A page-boy passed through the lobby of the exclusive hotel. "Young man", remonstrated the manager sternly, "you should know it's against the rules of this hotel for an employee to whistle while on duty." "I'm not whistling, sir," replied the employee. "I'm paging somebody's dog."—Hamilton Spectator.

Frequent naps keep you from getting old— especially if you're driving a car at the time.—Chatham News.

Philadelphia designers say men's suits for 1964 will have the slim look, with the suit being larger inside but trim outside. This parallels the feat of compact car makers in producing cars that are bigger inside than out.— Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

No confetti will be thrown at Mrs. Ann Aitken when she marries Mr. Clifford Macdonald on Brownsea Island, in Poole Harbor, next month. There is a nature reserve on the island and the couple, both keen ornithologists, have asked guests to throw birdseed instead of confetti "so that the birds will benefit." — Daily Telegraph, London.

Period Of Reassessment

By Doug Marshall
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The sound of political minds changing gears is beginning to penetrate the silent void left by John F. Kennedy's death.

Throughout the democratic West the principal question in party committee rooms, asked somewhat shamefacedly, is "how will it affect us?"

Initially it was believed in most quarters that Kennedy's radical, reforming influence on international politics would emerge rekindled and recharged from the catharis of near-universal grief.

The theme that Kennedy's work must be carried on, that dedication to the liberal and progressive principles for which he stood would be the only true memorial, was constantly reiterated in the non-American tributes.

SECOND THEORY

But now, as the mourners turn to pick up the threads again, a second and considerably less exalting theory is beginning to gain ground.

This line of thought holds that, with Kennedy the anchor man gone, electorates will be less inclined to be adventurous, to put untried left-wing parties into power. Says the London weekly, The Economist:

"The reaction of politicians is only too liable to take the form of a recoil towards prudence, if not paralysis. After an unexpected blow people often curl up, like startled hedgehogs, into strictly defensive postures."

Although there is little substantiating evidence, political observers believe the recent right-wing landslides in Australia and New Zealand elections may have been detonated by the sniper's shot fired in Dallas.

COULD BENEFIT TORIES

In Britain, where a general election must be called before next November, Labor party experts fear their chances of ending the 13-year Conservative regime may have been weakened.

"When there's a flap on and things look uncertain, the British public always retreats to the safety of the status quo," one party organizer said privately.

If the British people react like hedgehogs, the Tories could find themselves in power again. The strong swing to labor in Thursday's byelections suggest the electorate is unhappy with the government but opinions may alter when it comes to putting a green team in power.

Spoonerisms Recalled

Peterborough Examiner

Transposing the first letters or syllables of words is a verbal failing which often produces oddly comical results.

The champion at this unconscious nonsense was said to be the Rev. W.A. Spooner, one-time Warden of New College, Oxford. Indeed, we still call such slips spoonerisms.

Dr. Spooner was credited with dozens of hilarious ones.

He was supposed to have told a porter once, that he had "two rags and a bag" instead of two bags and a rug.

He also announced the hymn Conquering Kings as "Kinkering Kongs".

Other slips attributed to him are "half-warmed fish" for half-formed wish; a "well- boiled icycle" for a well, oiled bicycle and a "blushing crow" for a crushing blow.

But it seems that Dr. Spooner was not the champion muddler, he is credited with being.

At Oxford, British Broadcasting Corporation program, Dr. A. S. Russell, a former Oxford don, confirmed that Dr. Spooner was in a perpetual state of confusion but he upheld only two genuine spoonerisms— the "Kinkering Kongs" slip and "through a dark Bassly" in stead of "through a glass darkly.

But if his verbal eccentricity was mild, he made up for it by doing some peculiar things.

Once at a station, he gave his wife a shilling and kissed the porter.

Another time, he asked a young man in the university to come to dinner, and meet the new fellow, Mr. Casson.

"But I am Mr. Casson," said the young man astounded.

"Never mind", said Dr. Spooner. "Come anyway".

Who's Kidding Whom?

Toronto Telegram

Well, it seems that the wide-eyed prairie boy, Tommy Douglas, got all flustered in the House of Commons recently and didn't realize that a vote was being taken on a want-of- confidence motion.

As a result none of his little band of New Democratic Party members voted for the motion proposed by the Progressive Conservatives, criticizing the Government for tolerating some unemployment in the country.

After all the other members had voted— the Conservatives alone supporting their motion — Mr. Douglas rose on a point of privilege and pleaded, unsuccessfully, that his group should have a chance to record its views. He said that if they had not missed the vote, the NDPs would have voted with the Tories.

This is a completely new gimmick in the House of Commons; a party does not participate in a non- confidence vote that could endanger the Government but announces afterwards where its sympathy lay.

We could put this down to the naivete of Tommy Douglas, the prairie boy who became a British Columbian when he couldn't win a seat in his home province.

But we may be pardoned for having some reservations. Tommy has been away from the wheat fields and rubbing elbows with the politicians in the sophisticated east for some time now. He knows most of the rules of the game of politics.

Besides, the House a short while before had rejected a want- of-confidence motion moved by Mr. Douglas. On that occasion, he voted with his party against the government.

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