

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Montreal Office, 225 University Tower Bldg., 44 King St. W., Toronto.

FRIDAY, JAN. 18, 1957

Buck-Passing Won't Do

One of the members of the Gordon Commission complains that the press reports of the Commission's recommendations with respect to the Maritime Provinces were misleading.

"If it should turn out that there is not the necessary combination of resources in sufficient quantities to permit a substantial rise in living standards in the Atlantic region, generous assistance should be given to those people who might wish to move to other parts of Canada where there may be greater opportunities.

"But even if assistance is provided for those people who might be willing to move elsewhere, many people undoubtedly would prefer to remain where they are, despite the handicaps referred to.

"People who so choose should at the same time be prepared to accept a different kind of life, or certainly at a different tempo, and lower levels of income, though not necessarily a lower standard of living in its broadest sense, than people in certain other parts of Canada."

It is a common practice for politicians, when under fire for statements attributed to them, to blame the press. The Gordon Commission is already starting to do likewise. But the words above quoted are plain enough, and supercilious enough, to justify all the criticism that has been made.

In Wider Perspective

In the week between Christmas and New Year's a thousand or more members of the American Historical Society assembled at St. Louis for their annual meeting. In attendance were a handful of Canadians, who picked up some interesting reactions to the Suez affair.

One Texan professor pointed out that "there is no such thing as the rule of law if the law cannot be enforced." The United Nations never has possessed either the authority or the devices to enforce the law in the Middle East.

There was little tendency to spare the Canadians' feelings. Few were disposed to crown Lester Pearson with laurels; one Middle West gentleman said rather rudely that the United Nations police force was not his idea; it was Sir Anthony Eden's.

Indeed, it seemed that these American historians were more ready to put Canada than Great Britain on the mat of public opinion. They saw the snubbing of Franco

and Britain as the logical conclusion of a period in which United States Middle East policy had regarded the interests of friends and allies as expendable and they plainly expected that these nations, instead of taking their humiliation lying down, would seek to strengthen themselves in new alignments.

These American historians also had a great deal of sympathy and appreciation for French and British achievements in converting dependencies into allies by gifts of self-government. Some of them seemed to doubt whether Canada realized the obstacles that had been overcome in this process.

There was a moment of silence when a twangy, tweedy New Englander addressed the Canadian. His tone left no doubt that he was out to give his neighbor the facts of life. In effect he said, "It is pleasant to know that we are not the only idiots on this continent. I wonder if you realize how closely the Canadian situation parallels that of Egypt. You control our life lines—quite as important to us as the Suez Canal is to Great Britain—in the form of the radar installations in the Arctic. Do you know what would happen if you told us that because such installations infringed your sovereignty we would have to give them up? We would refuse to do anything of the kind. Do you know what would happen if you undertook to confiscate them? We would do everything in our power to prevent you. By weakening our associations with France and Britain we have made those early warning lines even more essential. When you weaken Commonwealth and European ties you make it even more certain that this continent eventually will be an atomic battlefield. If I were a Canadian I would oppose any policy with such an end product."

Seasonal Unemployment

Again this year, the Department of Labour and the Unemployment Insurance Commission are sponsoring a winter employment campaign throughout Canada with the slogan, "Why Wait for Spring?" It is aimed at winning the co-operation of all sections of our people in an attack on the seasonal unemployment problem.

Statements that wintertime construction is considerably more expensive are in many cases exaggerated and, in the light of modern techniques, out-dated. If buildings are "closed in" before winter, costs are usually comparable and may even be lower due to a better supply situation. Certainly much repair and maintenance work can be done in the winter months to great advantage.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Island railwaymen did an excellent job in clearing the rail traffic on the Eastern line under conditions of extreme midwinter severity. We have had little trouble of this kind in recent years, but it is evident that the efficiency of the emergency crews is being maintained at a high standard.



THIS WINTER WON'T LAST

OTTAWA REPORT

Leadership Speculation

By Patrick Nicholson

Ottawa: It is accepted as fact here that Prime Minister St. Laurent plans to dissolve this Parliament in April, and call a general election for mid June. It is further accepted that Mr. St. Laurent, who will celebrate his 75th birthday on 2nd February — it actually falls on 1st February — has accepted the draft of the Liberal Party to lead it through that election.

After that, all is speculation. Even the result of the election is not regarded here as a sure thing; but a widely held expectation, based on thinking and events as of today, is that the Liberals will lose more than thirty-five seats and will come back as the largest party in parliament but forced to offer really tip-top government through their minority position.

From that point on, speculation reaches out to the day in 1958 when St. Laurent is expected to retire from the leadership. "Who will succeed him as Liberal leader?" is the big question. As big a field as ever reared for such a big prize is already jostling each other, waiting for the starter's word to be "off". There are two whose previous form places them at the head of the betting. These are Finance Minister Walter Harris and Foreign Secretary Lester "Mike" Pearson.

There is one whose previous form gives him at least as high a rating as these two. This man, of course, is Health Minister Paul Martin. WIN, SHOW OR PLACE? Other candidates are generally regarded to be limited to four. In alphabetical order these are Quebec's only choice, the English-speaking Transport Minister George Marler; the Liberals' long-time chief political tactician, Immigration Minister Jack Pickers-gill; the west's possible first liberal leader, Fisheries Minister Jimmy Sinclair; and the Maritimes' favorite son, Public Works Minister Bob Winters.

Until very recently, it has been widely believed here that the choice of the Prime Minister himself had been favoring Walter Harris. Of course, at a national convention, the Prime Minister has only one vote, just like any other delegate. But his publicly choice would carry enough influence to swing the votes of many other delegates. Walter Harris would also have

the support of the professional politicians, M. P.'s, especially those from Ontario, would be very nearly solid behind him. Mike Pearson has long enjoyed a higher reputation, and has been more widely known, on the international diplomatic stage than on the Canadian hustings. He has suffered from the further disadvantage that the professional politicians have believed, rightly or wrongly, that the important field of domestic politics is a closed book to him. This is true in so far as the fact that he has never held any cabinet portfolio other than that of foreign affairs.

REMEMBER EDEN? These critics are now pointing to the record of Britain's Sir Anthony Eden. Twenty-years ago he was the Boy Wonder of the international years ago, he was virtually stranger to British domestic problems. Appointed to the premiership, he survived only 22 months, but long enough to damage his country's reputation in the opinion of some foreigners; nearly long enough to wreck his own party in the opinion of some Britishers.

Mike Pearson was a candidate for the top United Nations job; the Russians barred him. Then, he was accepted as a shoo-in for the top NATO job. Prime Minister St. Laurent persuaded him to remain in Canadian politics. Last week, the Prime Minister followed this up by delivering in the House of Commons the most lavish praise I have ever heard an about-to-retire leader bestow publicly on a candidate for his succession. The significance of this went home like an arrow on Liberal M.P.'s. It is too soon to tell whether or not this will deflect many from their support of Walter Harris.

The latter of course has long been the chief cabinet opponent of some of Trade Minister Howe's projects. He has long been the cabinet's "honest dollar" advocate and anti-inflation combatant. He still has behind him, say his backers, years of proved merit and achievement, which mere words from St. Laurent cannot take away. To be logical, the Prime Minister should now transfer Pearson to an important domestic cabinet post, to fill in that obvious gap in his experience.

The 1958 Liberal Convention to choose a new leader has now begun.

The Gordon Report

Frederick Gleazer

Mr. Horace Greeley, the American journalist and politician of the last century who is best remembered for his famous dictum: "Go West, Young Man," has apparently at last a Canadian counterpart in the person of Mr. Walter Gordon, whose report to Parliament on Canada's economic prospects advocates, as the chief remedy for the Atlantic region's special problems, that we be assisted to flee as refugees in a westerly direction to other parts of Canada.

There was admittedly some point to Mr. Greeley's advice at the time he gave it. The West was then an undeveloped area; his country's welfare required that it be opened up. There is no such point to Mr. Gordon's advice. Our West is opened up, and has, indeed, its own problems referred to in Mr. Gordon's report. Canada has a need for a vastly increased population, but this need is not going to be met by merely moving people from one part of the country to another. UNACCEPTABLE We cannot accept for a moment the suggestion that the Atlantic present population at a standard of living fairly comparable to the rest of Canada. We look to a marked increase of population. The resources are here. We have great mineral discoveries. In New Brunswick's timber lands we have a rapidly growing supply of a product for which there is a steadily increasing demand. There will be an increasing demand for the catches of Atlantic coast fishes.

PREMIERE FOR TORONTO LONDON (CP)—A new play by British author J. B. Priestley, The Glass Cage, will be its world premiere in Toronto in March. It is described as a "serious play about Canada."

Slightly Larger Crumb

Globe and Mail, Toronto

The Speech from the Throne forecasts legislation providing that grants in lieu of taxes will be paid on the full value of Dominion properties in municipalities. This is an improvement on the unfair formula arrangement that has prevailed hitherto. Originally, the Dominion Government paid such grants only where the value of its properties exceeded 4 per cent of the total assessment. As a result, outside of Ottawa itself, only a handful of municipalities gained any benefit. Toronto and Montreal did not receive a cent.

In 1955, the 4 per cent ratio was reduced to 2 per cent. This enlarged the payments to the previous group of municipalities, and added a few more villages and towns, but still had no benefit for most of the places in Canada.

It may be assumed that the same terms will govern the new grants as were applied to the old. The Government seems disposed to accept local assessments, but they must be given formal approval, which will ensure they are reasonable valuations for tax purposes.

WILL TOTAL \$15 MILLION Local estimates are that municipalities in the Metropolitan area will receive between one and two million dollars, in aggregate. Toronto's share will probably be about \$500,000. The total for the whole country will be about \$15 million.

The new scheme removes a gross inequity in the application of the grants as they were previously administered. This is all to the good, but the proposal does nothing to meet the broad problem of municipal finance. Some municipalities will get a fair return for Government property within their limits. Others, particularly small places, will receive nothing or very little. The change in policy needed to give the municipalities of this country a fair share of the available tax revenues still remains to be achieved. Useful as this tidying-up proposal may be to some municipal treasuries, it is ridiculously inadequate in the face of the whole problem. The proposed action shows what the pressure of determined public opinion can do. The pressure should continue until the fundamental issues of Dominion - Provincial - municipal tax difficulties are settled.

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.

ISOLATED

Sir,—I would like to know the reason why some roads are left blocked a whole week and more, impassable even for horses, and some others get the plough every day, snow or not?

This is the dire situation of the Rustico Road, from Milton to South Rustico. Segregation is no worse than this state of affairs. People on this road seem to be the same color as on other roads, so what, then, is the reason? After being isolated all week, different people tried to contact the dispatcher all day Saturday, but didn't even get an answer. He must be snowed in too.

We all pay as much for our gas licenses as other people, but after the first snow storm, we'd be better off with dog-sleds. This is a very public road and we should get the same service that other people get. In case of sickness we wouldn't have much of a chance to survive.

I am, Sir, etc., DISGUSTED LIBERAL, Oyster Bed Bridge.

UNREST IN UKRAINE BERLIN (AP)—The West Berlin newspaper Telegram reports widespread student unrest in the Ukraine. It says Russian tanks were called to put down a demonstration in Kiev, the capital. LIONS KILL TIGERS FRANKFURT, Germany (Reuters)—Eight lions killed a pair of tigers in Frankfurt zoo early Thursday after someone forgot to lock the gate between the lions and the tiger savans.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

BLADDER CONTROL PROBLEM

Don't worry too much about your youngster's bladder control. As he matures, the problem generally will solve itself. Deep concern over nocturnal enuresis might do more harm than good.

Gradually, bladder control becomes conscious and voluntary. Many mothers make a big mistake when the child nears complete control. They become too anxious for him to stop bed-wetting entirely.

HARMFUL EFFECT

This anxiety — or ambition, if you will — on a mother's part may be harmful to the parent-child relationship. And it might have a profound effect on the youngster's personality.

There are some children who can be trained fairly easily and without any harmful effects. There are others who can't.

If your youngster can readily fall asleep again and shows no resistance to being awakened to answer nature's call, then he probably will not suffer from the training process.

RESISTS TRAINING

If, on the other hand, he resists training, refuses to cooperate when you disturb his sleep, your training attempts might hamper his bladder control.

Bladder control simply requires this maturity at a fairly early age, others may continue bedwetting up to, and past, school age.

CURTAIN YOUR CONCERN

It's important that you mothers and others curtail your intense concern about the problem. It's also important that you try to remove any guilt feeling your youngster might have.

While this may not hasten spontaneous maturity and bladder control, it will help reduce the nervous effects on the child.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

C.S.M.: What causes a person to get black and blue marks at the slightest bump or touch?

Answer: This may be due to purpura.

In this condition, the patient has bleeding into the skin which is shown by spots that vary in size from a pinhead to that of a coin, and which look like a bruise.

A person with this condition must have a careful examination by a physician.



AFTERTHOUGHT

(The Step Ladder)

After the stated thought, the afterthought. Casts an afterglow of an intenser gleam.

Upon the silken, silent stream. Here is the tone articulate. The sound a shadow to the thought. As light and shade from single root begot.

How close allied the echo to the sound. The stillness to the imaged resonance. Beyond the image, louder the utterance.

Unspoken as an afterglow reflecting radiance in the face of thought. And light had smoldered to a frosted sound.

—Ryah Tumarkin Goodman.

MAXIMS

No business can afford the luxury of silence.

CANADA OPENS OFFICE

LONDON (CP) — The British emigration boom to Canada took in new territory Thursday with the opening of an office in Bristol, designed to serve 14 counties in the west of England and Wales. The old office in Bristol was closed in 1951.

SYRIAN IN DELHI

NEW DELHI (Reuters)—Syrian Shukri El Kouatly of Syria arrived Thursday by air for a 10-day state visit during which he will have talks with Prime Minister Nehru. The Syrian chief had flown from Karachi where he had a similar 10-day visit.

NOTES BY THE WAY

An expert, among other things, is a fellow talking somewhere not within earshot of his wife—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

Vice-President Nixon calls on Herbert Hoover. They call Nixon the rock of modern Republicanism because he keeps on speaking terms with the party's Stone Age.—Fletcher Knebel, Washington

It's bewildering to the Scotch when tradesmen insist on credit and monthly payments rather than immediate settlement. Instant buying may be good for business but for the purchaser there is no system that surpasses cash on the barrel head.—Farmer's Advocate

After Dublin, Belfast and New York, there are more Irish people in London than in any other city on the world. This is revealed in the report on Greater London issued by the British stationery office. It is estimated that not far from 400,000 Irish-born people live in London and the home counties.—Cork, Ireland, Examiner

In Sweden, where police crack down on drinking drivers with ferocity, couples out for the evening have the habit of sharing the driving. The driver is "on the wagon" for the night. If it appears to be an impossible feat for Canadians to drive with safety after the hospitalization of friends, then the Swedish idea might well be copied here.—Vancouver Herald

A Vancouver school board member has questioned the value of student visits to the legislature while the house is sitting. He argues, and with some justification, that the young people whose visits are subsidized by the school boards and private interest, heard a great deal of acrimony and saw unparliamentary conduct on both sides of the house. It was not a good example of democracy.—Victoria Times

Col. Ulric Dawson, Commanding Officer of the Prince Edward Island Regiment leaves tomorrow morning for Halifax to attend a meeting of the M. D. No. 6 Infantry Association to be held in the Armouries at Halifax. Col. Dawson is Vice-President of the Association

TEN YEARS AGO

(January 18, 1947)

Mr. H. G. Hughes, of the Research and Planning Bureau, Department of Health, Ottawa, was in Summerside on Thursday. Mr. Hughes is an architect and an expert on hospital construction. He met with the Board of Trustees of the Prince County Hospital and the architect who are drawing the plans for the new hospital.

The Masonic Lodge property on the corner of Summer and Church Streets, Summerside, has been sold to the Federal Government as a site on which to erect a new post office building. It was disclosed last evening by Mr. Donald Baker, chairman of the property committee of Hiram and Lebanon Lodge.

The Age Old Story

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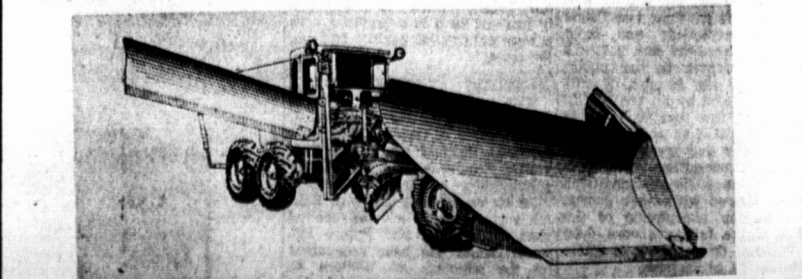
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