The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

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PAGE 4 SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1959.

Premier Roblin's Victory

The clear majority won by the Conservatives under Premier Roblin in Manitoba will insure stable government in that province for the next few years, and is naturally being hailed as a great political victory, both in Manitoba and at Ottawa. Such indeed it is, comparable—as a Canadian Press report states—in effect, although not in proportion, to Prime Minister Diefenbaker's victory in 1958 after first having been elected as a minority government leader. The CCF leader and one of his chief lieutenants have gone down to defeat, and seats have been won from eight Liberal Progressives including four former cabinet ministers. Those who profess to see evidence of a decline in the Diefenbaker Government's popularity will certainly not find it here.

Mr. Roblin's victory is all the more remarkable in that he is a comparative novice in practical politics. Only 41 years of age, he has been an M.L.A. for only ten years, Conservative leader for five years, and Premier for less than a year. The Liberal Progressive leader, Mr. Campbell, on the other hand, is a full-fledged professional politician—an M.L.A. for 37 years, a cabinet minister for 23 years and Premier for 10. Evidently it was not due to inexperience or lack of ability that the Liberals lost out. Across Canada, the results will be taken as pretty strong indorsement of Conservative policies generally.

Fine Church Building

The pastor, members and friends of the First United Baptist Church in Charlottetown have indeed reason to rejoice, and to be congratulated upon, the magificent new church edifice which will be opened with impressive services of dedication, starting tomorrow. The building is an adornment to the City, and a fine modern addition to our places of public worship. But it is more than that. It represents years of patient planning and sacrifice, inspired by a long tradition of devoted service to spiritual needs, and an abiding faith on the part of those now living in what the future has in store.

As noted in an historical sketch prepared for this occasion by Dr. J. A. Clark, the Baptist work in this Province originated in the expanding Baptist missionary movement in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in immigration of British settlers, Empire Loyalists and others, early in the last century. There has been steady progress throughout the years, and rich dividends have accrued from the spiritual labor of those engaged. Tomorrow's ceremony is therefore not of local interest merely, but of importance to all concerned in the church's work throughout this Province and Eastern Canada.

Faulty Assumptions

There may or may not be need for investigation into Maritime liquor laws, but we question whether it is the province of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council to concern itself with the matter. It is said that the question of "liberalizing" these laws has come up on several occasions and that APEC's tourist committee has already given it consideration. Now we have the suggestion from Dr. Fisher, executive director of Canadian Tourist Industry, that APEC invite a "distinguished Canadian" to make a study leading to new legislation, and ask Maritime politicians to agree to "keep politics out of the matter."

This proposal has been called "stimulating", and perhaps in one sense of the word, it is. But it is based on faulty assumptions. This newspaper campaigned for an end to the Prohibition farce in years gone by, long before the present liquor law came into effect. We have consistently maintained that you cannot legislate people into being abstainers, and this is now pretty generally recognized throughout the continent. But the extent to which liquor traffic should be regulated, in the interests of temperance, is another matter. And it is one about which there is a wide difference of opinion.

In this Province there are many who believe that it should be curtailed much more than it is at present, while of course there are others who believe in no restrictions at all. The majority, however, seem pretty well satisfied with the freedom they enjoy to drink in moderation if they wish. If a change is needed it is for our people to decide; and they will do that not on the basis of what suits tourists from other provinces, but on what is in keeping with our own habits, convictions, and ways of life.

We question very much the assumption implied in Dr. Fisher's proposal that freer liquor would bring more tourists of a desirable type to the Maritimes or anywhere else. In any case it is a poor way to settle a social problem by evaluating it in dollars and cents. And since it is, after all, a social problem, the handling of it by whatever government is in power is bound to be a political matter. No recommendations by a person invited here by APEC to study the matter—however "distinguished" a Canadian he might be—would remove one iota of the responsibility from our public men for any resulting changes that might be made.

Victoria Day

Victoria Day brings the first long holiday weekend of the summer season, and as such will be welcomed by all classes. It is well to remember, however, that long weekends mean increased highway traffic hazards. According to an estimate prepared by a national federation of insurance companies, as many as 100 Canadians may die on roads and highways during such periods—unless motorists and pedestrians exert greater caution than has been their habit.

It is to be hoped that Monday's holiday will not be marred by tragedies of this kind. The same applies to boating and fishing accidents, which also, in the past, have taken their toll.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Guardian joins in extending warmest congratulations to Dr. R. J. MacDonald, who is observing his 101st birthday anniversary today. Long may he be with us to enjoy the affection and esteem in which he is held by all our citizens!

* * *

A progress report on the world's largest dairy farm has been issued by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. This cow colony with 21,000 head of cattle is not in Texas, or even in Calgary, but in India. The colony covers 3,250 acres and is located 20 miles outside Bombay.

* * *

The Provincial Government has made an excellent choice in the appointment of Mr. J. O. C. Campbell, Q.C., as counsel to prepare the Island brief for the Royal Commission on railway transportation and freight rates. His experience and ability shown in previous presentations are a guarantee that our interests will be well served in this instance.

* * *

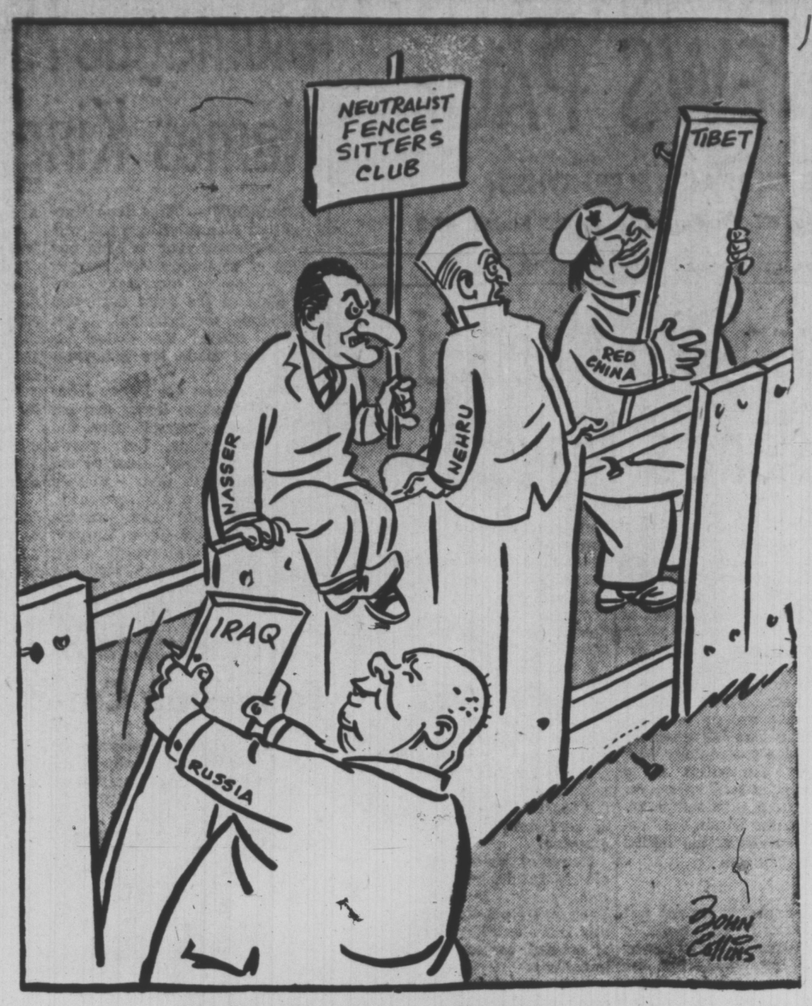
At a Liberal rally in Toronto, a high official of the Party got up to announce that Ontario's educational system "is probably the worst in the world with the exception of the Belkian Congo." "This," remarks the Globe and Mail mildly, "suggests that the Provincial election campaign, after a slow start, is beginning to warm up a little."

* * *

According to "The Canadian Doctor", while the average income of medical men in 1958 was uniformly high all over Canada, this varied from province to province. Analysis of income tax returns gives the following approximation: Newfoundland $14,000; Prince Edward Island $9,800; Nova Scotia $11,700; New Brunswick $12,400; Quebec $11,000; Ontario $14,300; Manitoba $12,600; Saskatchewan $14,300; Alberta $12,600; British Columbia $15,000.

* * *

"Don't leave school," the National Employment Services advises young people who may be tempted to sally forth into the world before completing high school courses. The reason for this warning is that, with jobs less plentiful than they were a couple of years ago, statistics show a "startling" relationship between unemployment and education. In short, the better the education, the better the chances of getting and keeping the jobs.



THAT FENCE IS GETTING SHAKY

Access Routes To Berlin

National Geographic Society

After a decade of periodic disputes over traffice between West Germany and isolated West Berlin, the problem is again due for an airing at the "Big Four" conference in Geneva.

Free access to the city was presumably assured at the end of World War II, when the United States, Russia, Britain, and France divided Germany into occupation zones, and its capital into respective sectors. Under four-power agreements, specific air and overland corridors were set aside to permit passage to Berlin through Soviet-held East Germany.

From time to time, however, Russian authorities have tried to blockade or restrict such traffic. Now they demand a 10,000-foot ceiling on American aircraft. In the background looms the over-all question of the transfer of control to East Germany, whose government the West does not recognize.

BAKER'S DOZEN

In use today are 13 lifelines that carry freight and travelers between the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin, says the National Geographic Society. Three are air corridors, four are railways, four are highways, and two are canals.

On a map, the three air corridors across East Germany resemble a giant direction arrow facing West Berlin. Three prongs—each 20 miles wide—stretch 160 miles southeast from Hamburg, 155 miles directly east from Hanover, and 270 miles northeast from Frankfurt.

The rail and highway routes link West Berliners with centers of trade and industry in all parts of Federal Germany. Terminal and main junction points are scattered from the busy northern port of Hamburg to Helmstedt, Frankfurt, and the Bavarian city of Hof.

Barges on the inter-zonal canal systems take cargoes to and from West Berlin over the Hamburg-Elbe River channel, and interlocking Midland waterways that reach from the Rhine in the far west to the Oder in the far east.

TWO KINDS OF CONTROLS

Strict regulations control traffic on all communication lanes.

Air travel and military transport come under special four-power treaties. On overland journeys, Allied military personnel and freight are checked at border points by Soviet Army representatives.

Civilian travelers and goods are cleared by East German authorities under a trade agreement between the two German states. It is carried out by lower government officials in order to avoid the nonrecognition issue.

Over the years, check-point delays, stoppages, and excessive toll charges often served as a barometer of East West relations. The most critical was the Russian blockade of 1948 that cut off land and water communication with West Berlin.

BERLIN AIRLIFT

The result was the Berlin Airlift. For more than a year, Allied airmen on day-and-night schedules flew in more than 2,000,000 tons of essential supplies—enough to keep the city going until normal traffic was resumed. A soaring concrete monument at Tempelhof Airport in the United States sector of Berlin stands in memory of the achievement.

Recent reports indicate that travelers and freight are moving briskly between West Germany and West Berlin. In 1958, 8,100,000 tons of goods reached the city from the West; 1,500,000 tons went in the reverse direction.

Despite crisis headlines, tourist officials of West Berlin note that hotel registrations by foreign visitors numbered 84,000 in 1958, compared with 78,000 in 1957 It is estimated that some 3,400,000 people came to West Berlin by car and bus from West Germany in 1958; 3,200,000 in 1957. Another million arrived by air.

British View On Fluoridation

From The Practitioner, A Medical Journal Published in the United Kingdom

No better example could be quoted of the incalculable harm that can be done by a small vocal minority, using as their ammunition quotations taken out of context, than the current campaign against fluoridation of water supplies as a preventive against dental caries. All the evidence points to this being both an efficient and a safe measure.

To take only two recent reports: in our March issue we quoted a report from Philadelphia which showed that four years fluoridation of the public water supply had been followed by a decrease of nearly 50 percent in the caries rate in children, whilst in this issue we summerize a report from Maine showing a reduction in the average number of decayed, missing and filled permanent teeth by more than half among the children aged 6 to 9 years.

So far as safety is concerned the position was admirably summed up by Professor Ernest Mathews in his review of "Advances in Dentistry" last October: "For generations communities in various parts of the world have been using drinking water which contains fluorine in the recommended quantity and even five times as much but, as Hurry has shown in Sweden, apart from mottled enamel, no cases of fluorosis have been found among these people". Further evidence in favour of the safety of the procedure is now forthcoming in the form of a report submitted by the Royal Swedish Medical Board of the Swedish Government; "In the opinion of the Board the enquiry carried out has shown that fluoridation of public water supplies does not involve any demonstrable health hazards even in prolonged consumption of the water."

There will be many who will echo the cri de coeur of a medical officer of health in his recent annual report: "What in Heaven's name is preventing millions of children in this country from being given what they desperately need to save half their teeth from rotting? Believe it or not, it seems to be a tiny minority of people, almost all of whom know next to nothing about the subject and have totally unscientific minds".

Roots And Dinner Knives

Montreal Gazette

Rudyard Kipling writes of the gardeners who learn their work "with broken dinner knives."

Anyone who has ever done any gardening will have memories of using some old household knife, retired from use on the table, and given over as a tool for cutting out weeds. It is no mean retirement, for all gardener's tools have something of the dignity of the work, with the bits of dried earth that cling to them. They become part of what Kipling called, "the glory of the garden."

One thing a gardener comes to learn is the strange world of roots. And a tangled, secret, earthy world it is.

To those who look on things that grow, it is the outward and visible parts that are known, the greenness of the stems, the spectrum of the flowers, or the bark and branches of trees. But the world of roots is a world of its own, a hidden world of moisture and darkness, where color has little purpose, a remote not-human world.

OLD PICTURES

Anyone who turns the pages of an old botanical book will often see how each plant is pictured whole, with its stem and flower, and the root that lies beneath. It is a little disturbing to see how the two parts are really the one plant. For while the upper portion that lives in the sun is vivid with color, the root is pallid, often of a white-like sort of brown or red. Yet in these roots is the life of the plant, as they feel their way into the earth, among stones, and in the moist and nourishing places.

There may be a certain weird power to roots that have grown far and deep, so that they may only slowly be drawn to the surface. They have an almost snake-like appearance.

The poet, Walter de la Mare, tells of seeing the roots of waterlilies; the contrast of their long and twisted strength with the white delicacy of the flower was astounding.

BODIAM CASTLE

He happened to visit Bodiam Castle at a time when they had drained the moat—a moat famous for its waterlilies. There the roots lay exposed—"great boa-constrictors of roots one didn't usually see: it was quite frightening."

There is, however, a dignified strength to the great roots at the foot of old trees—roots that have heaved up the grass, and grasp the ground like huge fingers. For the world of roots may be an ancient one, with a far and immemorial growth.

The Scottish essayist, Alexander Smith, wrote in his book, "Dreamthorpe" in the 1870's, that trees are "the best antiques." There are cedars in Lebanon, that the axes of Solomon spared when he was busy building the Temple, oaks in Sherwood that heard the horn of Robin Hood, beeches that gave shelter when Shakespeare was a boy.

DARK AND SILENT

The vast outspreading of their branches, and the leaves that glisten in the sun may be seen to this day. But beneath is their other strength, the roots that have grown through centuries, spreading and probing into the concealed world of dark and silence—a world which is as old as the outer world of the sun, and which has its own history of reaching out to sources of strength.

Yet not all trees can clutch the earth with a large and firm grasp, finding strength in the rich soil of grove or forest. There are the trees that grow almost in defiance on the slopes of mountains, amidst bare outcroppings of rock. Their roots must find nourishment by pressing through crevices and into shallow earth, in a wonder of persistence. Yet such trees have perhaps the greater grandeur.

RUSKIN QUOTED

John Ruskin looked upon the pines in the Alps as "magnificent. . .almost terrible."

"You cannot reach them, cannot cry to them" he wrote;"—those trees never heard human voice; they are far above all sound but of the winds. No foot ever stirred fallen leaf of theirs. All comfortless they stand, between the two eternities of the Vacancy and the Rock; yet with such iron will, that the rock itself looks bent and shattered beside them—fragile, weak, inconsistent, compared to their dark energy of delicate life, and monotony of enchanted pride;—unnumbered, unconquerable."

These pines clinging to their far ledges on the mountainside may seem a long way from the roots that the gardener brings to light with his broken dinner knife. But all are part of the same life of Nature's growth, which reaches outwards toward sun and space, while reaching downward into silence and the dark, and drawing such differing nutriments for the wish and struggle to life.

Not Always From Exertion

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

JUST what part does physical exertion play in heart disease?

As far as the general public is concerned, this is probably one of the most misunderstood of all medical matters. And I suspect that the answers I am going to give, will surprise many of you.

PHYSICAL EFFORT

The simple fact is that ordinary physical effort does not cause heart disease. Most persons with heart disease can do just about any type of work for which they are qualified. There are some exceptions, of course.

I have always cautioned against overexerting yourself during the winter, during the summer—at any time. It is simply common sense to do things the easiest way possible and to avoid overexertion whenever possible.

NO RELATIONSHIP

Yet most doctors agree that there is no relationship between ordinary physical exertion and coronary thrombosis.

Coronary thrombosis is a blocking of one of the vessels which supplies blood to the heart's muscle.

Primarily, the belief that this is not the result of exertion is based on the fact that more than half of all coronary thrombosis attacks occur while the victim is sleeping or resting. Only a tiny two per cent of the total are associated with unusual exertion.

As with just about any other medical question, some specialists disagree with this viewpoint.

A QUESTION

Along about here some of you are going to ask:

"But what about pain near the heart? Doesn't physical exertion cause such pain?"

The answer is a qualified "Maybe."

MANY CAUSES

Sudden pain in the heart region can be the result of many causes, many of which have nothing to do with heart disease.

However, in the case of diseased arteries, such pain may be connected with exertion.

DISEASED ARTERIES

Exertion itself will not cause disease in the arteries which supply blood to the heart muscle. But if these arteries already are diseased, physical effort may cause pain in the heart region.

Any frequent or prolonged pain in this area, of course, is a signal to see your doctor.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. A. T.: Could you inform me what causes a bitter taste in my mouth? I am a woman of 50 and in fine health otherwise.

Answer: There may be various causes for a bitter taste, such as bad teeth, faulty dentures, sinus trouble or upset stomach. It is best to consult your family physician.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(May 16, 1934)

Word has been received of serious injury sustained by Rev. Arthur D. Matheson, formerly of Dundas, in the course of his Missionary activities in India. Rev. Mr. Matheson, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A.D. Matheson, Dundas, has been engaged in the missionary field in India for the past twelve years.

Prominent horsemen from all parts of the Province met on Tuesday evening in the office of for the purpose of forming a race "Doc" MacPherson, Summerside ing club. George Callbeck was elected president; Willard Kelly, vice-president; and F.J.E. Wright secretary.

TEN YEARS AGO
(May 16, 1949)

Eight pilots graduated from a short Navigation course for pilots at the RCAF Station, Summerside, on Friday and were presented with certificates at the Commanding Officer's Parade. On Monday morning a new course will begin, this time for navigators. Each course is approximately four months. There will be eight R.C.A.F. Navigators and one Navy officer on the new course.

Red Cross First Aid certificates were presented to sixty students in the Teacher Training Department at Prince of Wales College on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. E. M. Bagnall, president of the Red Cross first aid committee, presided. Speakers included Dr. L. W. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Education, and Dr. W.J.P. MacMillan, past president of the Red Cross.

MAXIMS

A person remains immature, whatever his age, as long as he thinks of himself as an exception to the human race.

WARM WEATHER CONTINUES

LONDON (Reuters)—Britain's warm weather wave continued Thursday with a forecast that it would run into the weekend Whitsun holiday. Bright sunshine and a cloudless sky covered most of the country for the seventh successive day. The temperature was in the 70s.

NOTABLE DAM

The Tignes dam on the Isere River in France, one of the world's great power dams, is 592 feet higher.

NOTES BY THE WAY

To the fellow out of work the difference between "recession", and "recovery" must be hard to comprehend.—Brantford Exposi tor

People are clearing gardens of last year's weeds, to give this year's a chance.—London Free Press

The do-it-yourself movement will never become as popular as the age-old custom of letting George do it.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

All we can say is that things have come to a pretty pass when a United Kingdom Prime Minister booed by a woman, boos right back.—Ottawa Journal

Now is the time for wives to start the old propaganda that a few sessions in the back yard will do their husbands a world of good:—Edmonton Journal

Aunt Nellie: "Well, Bobby, did you see Santa Claus last Christmas?" Bobby: No, auntie. It was too dark to see him, but I heard what he said when he knocked his toe against the bedpost."—Windsor Star.

There was a time, within the memory of many of us, when only the well to-do could afford to drive an automobile. We may see the day when only the well-to do will be able to afford to park one.—Belleville Intelligencer.

The smart boy next door days an epistle is the wife of an apostle.—Calgary Herald

We like that story from Marlin, Texas, where the dog-catcher announced a campaign for killing stray dogs and the mayor simultaneously proclaimed "Be Kind to Animal Week".—Ottawa Journal

A good bank manager should have the dignity of an arch-bishop the geniality of George Robey, the smile of a film star and the skin of a rhinoceros.—British Institute of Bankers.

The combined pay for the policemen who hand out Ottawa's parking tickets is $300,000 The "take" in fines in 1958 was $170,000. Well, this ends the motorist's complaint that the whole thing is a money-making "gouge" —Ottawa Citizen

Nobody of fashion or ambition wants to live on a street. Avenues are more grand, drives more distinguished, roads more romantic, crescents more picturesque, and places more casual. But a street? Merely a paved road.—Ottawa Journal

As jobs get bigger and more important so do their titles. Some gentlemen who used to be only premiers are now "Prime Ministers of the Province", and at least one former provincial treasurer is "Minister of Finance of the Province".—Ottawa Journal

FIRST PHASE COMPLETE

MONTREAL (CP)—Trans-Canada Air Lines has taken delivery of its 51st Viscount aircraft, completing the first phase of a $37,000,000 re-equipment program begun almost five years ago. The airline expects to possess the world's first all - turbine powered international air fleet by 1961 when it will also be flying pure jet Douglas DC-8s and Vickers Vanguards.

The Poets Corner

FROM A BRIDGE

Here at the river's luminous edge
The village, variously steepled,
Rises above its replica. . .
That phantom structure, calm, unpeopled.

Hinged as a shell, in duplicate,
The unsubstantial faces matter,
Each with its own identity. . .
The one of stone, the one of water.

Thus, what we are by only half
Is mirrored by another reckoning;
See the drowned steeples of our dreams,
Forever lost, forever beckoning!

—Sarah Litsey
in the New York Times

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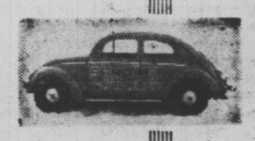

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