The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Cost-Sharing Grants

Reports dealing with the coming federal-provincial conference have underlined the grievances of several provinces with regard to the cost-sharing programs initiated at Ottawa. These programs, it is said, have virtually forced the provinces into schemes, some of which they could ill afford at the time. We know from our own experience that there is truth in this complaint.

But the remedy doesn't lie in abandoning these programs, as some sources have suggested. That might suit the wealthier provinces, into which tax revenues from all parts of the country flow and which are anxious to retain as much control over these revenues as possible. But in our case—and in the case of the Atlantic Provinces generally—it would mean setting the clock back irrevocably.

The inequities in the cost-sharing programs should not blind us to the fact that without them we would be in a much worse position than we are, and that our future depends on their continuance in such a manner as to make them truly equitable. It is unthinkable, because of the difficulties in the way, that they should be abandoned; and we view with grave suspicion the agitation for paring them down along the lines proposed by Quebec, and indorsed, to a considerable extent, by Ontario.

This, as we see it, is one of the most important issues to be dealt with at the Ottawa conference which opens on Monday. The meetings will be held in camera, thus giving every opportunity for untrammelled discussion; and it is to be hoped that out of them will emerge some arrangement that will take cognizance of the vital principle of fiscal need, linked with tax potential, as the factor in determining all future cost-sharing grants.

Prince Edward Island, as the smallest province and the most dependent on the basic industries with which it entered Confederation, has perhaps the biggest stake in a matter of this kind. We have no doubt that our provincial spokesmen are fully aware of this and will present a strong case on our behalf. Let us hope that it will not go unheard amid the clash of other interests.

Coyne Affair Recalled

Remember Mr. James E. Coyne, the Bank of Canada governor the Conservatives tried to fire, and the man who exhorted Canadians to live within their means? A recent statement by Finance Minister Gordon revealed that he is drawing a Government retirement pension of $25,000 a year, and has been getting it since July 13, 1961, the date of his retirement.

The $25,000 pension was one of the major issues in the 1961 Coyne affair. As recalled by an Ottawa correspondent for the Globe and Mail, the real quarrel between the government of the day and the governor of the bank was over Mr. Coyne's economic theories and the relationship between the two authorities. But a strong side issue developed as a result of the condemnation of Mr. Coyne by Hon. Donald Fleming, then minister of finance, for tacitly approving a meeting of the bank's directors which raised the governor's pension from $11,900 to $25,000. Mr. Coyne should have vetoed the action, Mr. Fleming maintained.

When he answered this charge before the Senate standing committee on banking and commerce on July 10, 1951, Mr. Coyne asserted there had always been an unwritten understanding that a governor who left the bank before normal retirement age would not draw the special pension if he found suitable alternative employment.

After the hearing, the Liberal-dominated Senate refused to pass on the Commons legislation that would have removed Mr. Coyne from office. Having had his day in court, Mr. Coyne resigned, six months before his statutory seven-year term of office was due to expire. It was later announced that the bank's board of directors, at a meeting on July 22, decided to suspend the pension fund by-law, giving effect to the $25,000 pension, pending review.

Nothing more was heard until Robert Muir, Conservative member for Cape Breton, asked Mr. Gordon in the Commons this week to confirm or deny reports about the pension. Without a moment's hesitation and with the assistance of a memorandum, indicating his preparedness, Mr. Gordon read the reply.

Mr. Coyne, 53, is now chairman of the board of York Trust and Savings Corp., Toronto. He is also a member of a leading Manitoba law firm. As governor of the Bank of Canada he drew $50,000 a year.

Out Of Vodka

Picture if you can a thirsty Russian commisar, says a Washington dispatch. There he sits on the lonely steppes, gloomily beating his wife. For the Soviet grain crop has failed and there is no more vodka. His government has been forced to go to the Americans and offer to buy $50,000,000 worth of grain alcohol—enough to make 45,000,000 gallons of the Russian lifeblood.

Premier Khrushchev may be concerned about Berlin, Cuba, Communist China and arms production, but what are these minor problems to the fact that grain and potato shortages threaten to deny Ivan of his normal quota of the national beverage?

For some time Mr. Khrushchev himself—quite a vodka consumer over the years—has been urging Russians to cut down on vodka in the interests of health, productivity and peace. Now he has the additional argument that grain used to make vodka can't be used to make bread or feed cattle and there has to be a choice. But it's not going to boost his popularity by pressing this point too far.

So, he's in the American market for 20,000,000 gallons of 190 proof alcohol to meet the crisis. American distillers are reportedly delighted to oblige, for they happen to be heavily overstocked with spirits. With their grain surpluses they can make all they require.

Perhaps this will usher in a new and happier era in U.S.-Soviet relations. "Man wants but little drink below," says the poet, "but wants that little strong." And how can the cockles of the Kremlin bosses' hearts not be warmed by this American gesture in supplying so vital a need?

Ancient Roman Nails

One thing that Roman culture brought to England during its occupation was a boundless harvest of nails. They have been found in quantity at various places, the latest being at Inchtuthil, near Perth, where a hoard of about a million forged nails was dug up by an archaeologist. They had remained buried for about 1,900 years without deterioration.

Sets of these nails were sent free to almost every museum in the world. The rest were put on sale at 5 shillings—about 70 cents. Newsboys and bishops, company directors and Japanese scholars and all sorts of other people snapped them up. Many "publicans," it is reported, bought some to hang over their bars. Some were auctioned off for charity for as much as $4.20 each.

Now all have been sold. "And," reports an exchange, "there is speculation that profit from the nails came to as much as Rome ever got out of its former colony."

EDITORIAL NOTE

Here's a good omen for the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, suggests the Ottawa Journal. It appears that French-language Canadian newspapers are calling it the Dunton-Laurendeau Commission and English-language Canadian newspapers are calling it the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission.

WHEN TWO'S A CROWD

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Salvaged From Hansard's Dull Pages

The remarks made by our politicians contain vivid examples of quick wit, horse sense, learning and abject self- revelation. Here are some recent examples which have mostly escaped general notice in our newspapers.

WINNING VOTES

"There are times when I am almost afraid to kiss a baby lest someone look quizzically at me with the unspoken reaction: 'I didn't know there was another election on'!" Prime Minister Lester Pearson.

BEDTIME HASTE

"A civil service is thought to be perpetually in danger of strangulation by its own red tape. I have occasionally suffered from this danger. But I have also suffered from the results of impatient attempts to cut across tried and established procedures in the interest of a too narrow concept of efficiency. You can get your tooth paste more quickly by squeezing the top of the tube, but the result is not to be recommended."— Prime Minister Lester Pearson.

TIME MARCHES ON

"Of course I have every sympathy with the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker), being myself at the same melancholy stage of existence, and I can well believe that now and again he hears the words of Andrew Marvell saying:

"But at my back I always hear
Time's winged chariot hurrying near.'

"But I would suggest there is something odd in his determination to thumb a ride on time's winged chariot to oblivion." — Mr. Colin Cameron, NDP MP from Nanaimo.

LET'S BE JOYFUL

"The present political circumstances of Canada demand that we all look towards the future. This looking towards the future seems to be much more desirable than the foot-pawing teeth-gnashing that Canadian members of parliament sometimes indulge in during debates in the House of Commons as they review the past or examine the present."— Mr. Eldon Woolliams, Conservative M.P. for Bow River, Alberta.

TOOTH PASTE AGAIN

"I was very pleased to see the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Judy LaMarsh) come into the house today her very affable and amiable self. I am glad she discarded that 'bull in a china shop' attitude which she sometimes displays. I am particularly glad to see her with such a broad and handsome smile, displaying such a fine set of pearly teeth. I as a dentist commend her for that. I hope she will sink those teeth into some of my suggestions." —Mr. Joseph Slogan, Conservative M.P. for Springfield.

LIBERALS' PET

"I do object very strongly to the misuse of public money for the subsidization of the establishment of industry in an area (Brantford, Ontario) that is on the perimeter of one of the richest, most prosperous and most progressive areas in Canada. That community woke up one morning and found they had become the adopted and retarded child of the Liberal government."— Mr. Gordon Chaplin, Conservative M.P. from Galt.

LIKE THE FARM

"The Hon. member who has just interrupted reminds me of a type of wheat we used to grow in Saskatchewan. It was long in the straw, big in the head, but when you threshed it there wasn't much in it."—Hon. Alvin Hamilton, former Minister of Agriculture.

OUR WAY OF HOLIDAYS

"The holiday crowds today are on rubber tires and they are really crowds. Because of statutory holidays with pay, because of a good and always improving roads system, because of the fact that cars are owned by almost everyone, most Canadian families are today throwing the kids in the back of the car and saying: 'Let us go to the National Parks.' "—Hon. A. Laing, Minister of Northern Affairs.

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 corrrespondence regarding letters submitted.

REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Sir;— I wish to analyze the modern educational system which is advocated by our government. To my way of thinking, and many farmers think the same, this regional high school idea is going to drive hundreds of farmers off the farms, because they cannot afford such taxes, especially the small farmers who have only two things to depend on in P.E.I. —cattle and milk. All the other things are a pure gamble. All other provinces have minerals and many other sources of obtaining cash. We on the Island have only fishermen and farmers to depend on, and we should be careful how we spend our money.

I have been told that many farmers are behind in their taxes for the last year, and many of them will be unable to meet their taxes this year. The consequence will be that they will be sold out. Now who is going to buy the many farms that will be sold? Most of them will be on the government's hands. The Island will surely be depopulated.

We should leave the schools in each district, and if the teachers refuse to teach high school subjects their license should be cancelled.

If a pensioner is living on a farm and he has nobody to farm, he is up against it under high school ideas. The Bible says to love your neighbor as yourself. That's good, but do not starve yourself in order to do so. That's the height of foolishness.

Education is fine, but do not let it go too far. In Ontario around 40,000 passed through university, and they lost to the U.S. 40,000 people. I believe many of them were university people who could not find jobs in their own province. This coming year 40,000 are going to university at a cost of $484,000 in Ontario. Where are they going to find jobs in Canada?

Just imagine children waiting at the road from long lanes and side roads, freezing half to death. On our road in 1905 we had a bank of snow 25 feet high and in many parts of the Island they were driving over telephone lines. How many snowplows could free roads freely for busses? They cannot do it, I prophesy.

I trust the farmers will put their foot down on the whole business of regional high schools and keep our Islanders at home.

I am, Sir, etc.,
JOHN Y. MacDONALD,
Rice Point, P.E.I.

More Pressing Need

Fort William Times-Journal

He must be a sanguine person who feels that the royal commission to inquire into bilingualism and biculturalism in Canada is off to a good start. The divergence of opinions presented as the commission opened its inquiry, and later the suggestion from spokesmen for leading French- Canadian groups that the inquiry is "worthy of a general boycott" purport a rocky and non-conclusive trail of inquiry across Canada.

Where there is no feeling of national unity, it is difficult to find common loyalty to the nation.

The Romans, Saxons, Picts, Normans and others were successfully merged and together they built a powerful and influential nation, inspired by intense loyalty to the homeland. Great Britain virtually became a one-language country.

The United States has moulded immigrants from all parts of the world into a 200 million nation motivated by devotion to the concept of one language, one flag in the pursuit of freedom.

Canada, like Belgium and India, keeps groping for a happy two- language nation with equal emphasis on the cultures of two races. Belgium has not found the solution; neither has India.

It is no doubt true that a greater need than a commission to recommend rules for the regulation of "rights" for the members of the two races, is leadership from spokesmen for the two cultures to consolidate a national dedication to objectives of freedom, tolerance, neighborliness and pride of achievement which can be expressed in both languages—objectives rising in importance above the preservation of two cultures.

Given that, we would find it easier to choose a flag that represented the objectives rather than the racial origin of citizens. We might find it easier to give all in Canada a new sense of "belonging."

Colorful Names

Vancouver Province

A proposal has been made to remove Mount Stalin from the map of British Columbia on moral grounds. Admittedly Mounts Roosevelt and Churchill might feel lonely in their far northern corner without him, but this praiseworthy suggestion opens up a wide field for the place names. Certainly not all of them are refined and impeccable.

Should young and tender minds be exposed to Hellroaring Creek and 13 other hellish variations? We have an Anarchist, an Agamemnon, an Armentiers (where mademoiselle was from) a Cain, an Iago, a Goering, a Bligh and even a King Solomon (whose domestic habits were not beyond reproach). And 19 devils

We have a Bad Creek, Badman Point and assorted Crooks, Fools, Thieves, Murderers, Hoboes, Robbers, Smugglers and Sin Lake.

Were our 13 Alices and 16 Mauds all ladies of irreproachable virture? Are Bingo, Blackjacks, Corkscrews, 16 Brews and Brewers and Brewerys, Hooch, Poison, Small pox, 13 Whiskies and one Still tolerable? What about Vile Creek and Wilcked River?

Were Clementine and Dolly Varden found at The Bar? Did Rebecca Spit? If Stalin goes, how about Tito and Sinn Fein? One name is not as good as another, or even Goodasany.

No, Sir. Our geography is defaced by Warts, Nipples, Bigmouths, Blowholes, Furies, Termagants, Squawks, superstion and Slums. By Damfino and Damnation. We have Leers, Combinations, Dimples, Extravagants, Mantraps and Big Wheels. We have Ptomaine and Suicide. What the Sam Hill can we do about it?

Fortun tely we also have a Galahad and nine Batchelors. Perhaps they can clean it up

Several Tests For Cross-Eye

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Infants eyes are not coordinated and often stray during the first six months of life. But children with true cross - eye will not outgrow the condition. This means it is important to recognize this imbalance early because much can be done to preserve sight.

But it is easy to make a wrong diagnosis, considering the number of babies and toddlers who are thought to be cross-eyed. Certain facial features common to infants may be responsible for the confusion.

The broad nose bridge and prominent folds at the inner corners of the eyes may give the false impression that one eye, and then the other, is out of line, depending upon whether the baby is looking to the right or left. This mistake is avoided by watching the position of light reflected from the pupil.

It should be in the center when the gaze is following the light or is fixed on it. The reflected light will be off center in the straying, or crossed-eye. Be certain the baby is looking at the light before making final judgment.

True strabismus is an imbalance between the muscles that rotate the eyeballs. This condition is known by various terms: cross - eye, wall - eye, cast, squint, tropia, and heterotropia. The end result is that both peepers do not focus on the same point at the same time. The baby sees double, but not for long because the seeing mechanism of the eye that is on focus develops but the image produced by the other eye is shut out. This eye may become blind eventually if visual development has not been stimulated for years.

The screen, or cover test, can be used to detect cross - eye in older children. The youngster is asked to fix his gaze on a light or on one object. One orb is covered with a narrow card. Should the uncovered eye move to a new position to focus on the light or object, we can assume it is out of line. If it does not move when the other is covered, presumably that eye is on target.

BROODING UPON RABIES

W.B. writes: I was bitten on the leg by a dog four months ago and the wound has healed. Have I passed the incubation period for rabies, as my doctor assures me?

REPLY

For practical purposes, yes, because the average incubation period for rabies is six to nine weeks. You did not mention whether the dog had rabies.

CARDIAC ASTHMA

L.B.R. writes: What could a first attack of asthma at age 62 be due to? So far as I know, I'm not allergic to anything.

REPLY

Cardiac asthma may be responsible. This condition causes symptoms that are somewhat similar to those of bronchial asthma. But heart failure, rather than allergy, is the cause.

Today's Health Hint

Don't trip over your own junk.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(November 22, 1938)

An excellent exhibition of paintings by contemporary Canadian artists opened at the Harris Memorial Gallery in the library building, Charlottetown yesterday afternoon. Fifty-eight pictures, including land and sea scapes, and numerous other subjects made up the delightful collection.

The Little Theatre Guild of Charlottetown ushered in their autumn season last night by presenting a capacity audience with two one-act plays "The Maker of Dreams" and "The Dear Departed" under the direction of Mrs. Vera Millar and Miss Edith Hill.

TEN YEARS AGO
(November 22, 1953)

Rev. William M. Hyndman, MA, was guest preacher at Zion Presbyterian Church, at both services Sunday. Mr. Hyndman is a native of Northern Ireland and came to Canada in 1951.

Mrs. M.F. Rodd, St. Peters Road, has returned home after an extended visit in England, with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Sexty, Norwich.

NOTES BY THE WAY

For those who are in favor of a little bilingualism to enliven our culture, we can only repeat a famous fact, and that is that it is very difficult to learn another language from a textbook. It is much easier and far more interesting to learn it by speaking it. —Hamilton Spectator.

A Swedish princess had enrolled at an American woman's college, but she may never be chosen "queen" of anything. — Arkansas Gazette.

One of the best automobile insurance policies is a Sunday afternoon nap.— Pierce County Herald.

Bewildered Bantus Vote

By Douglas Marshall
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The Transkei election Wednesday to establish South Africa's first Bantustan seemed more a massive publicity campaign than a democratic poll.

Watched by foreign correspondents flown in for the occasion, some 880,000 bewildered Bantus—half of them illiterate—voted to select 45 assembly members out of 179 candidates. The rest of the General Assembly will be made up by 64 automatically - appointed chiefs.

The election was the first time Negroes have been allowed to vote for Negroes in South Africa and, taken in conjunction with the resignation of blustering Foreign Minister Eric Louw, inaugurates a new policy line for the South African government.

Premier Hendrik Verwoerd, worried by mounting antagonism in the United Nations and the threat of real sanctions against South Africa, appears to be trying to win international sympathy by putting into practice his promises of self-determination in separate all-black states, however fuzzy these seem to outside critics.

REPORTER JAILED

The foreign correspondents are unlikely to be much impressed by his opening move. The Johannesburg correspondent of the London weekly, The Spectator, now is in jail for suggesting that a new colony rather than a new state was emerging.

Close inspection of the Transkei's new governmental machinery seems to confirm his view.

The General Assembly will be responsible only for minor internal domestic matters. The state president will retain total veto power for the time being.

Since the state president can appoint or dismiss chiefs at will, the Assembly is unlikely to give him much trouble. Moreover, the state emergency declared in 1960 still remains. Rule of law is suspended and any interference—which means criticism—with the authority of the state brings indefinite imprisonment.

New Status Symbols

National Geographic Society

The automobile license plate rides unchallenged as a cherished status symbol round the world.

Motorists connive, plead, and sometimes steal to get the low numbers that reflect high position. Even royalty gets into the game.

The Maharana of Udaipur, for example, disdains mere numbers for the royal Rolls-Royce. Instead, his car carries a brilliant gold sun disk, the family symbol for centuries.

In the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Sikkim, the royal family's tags simply bear the word "Sikkim."

PLATES IN SPAIN

Spaniards recently have taken to displaying Virginia and Florida tags, obtained from the United States quite legally. According to reports, the plates command respect from policemen, who are lenient to tourists, and give a certain social status.

British laws permit a car owner to hold the same license number for life, but he may transfer it at will. A British car dealer who holds 'A 1" refused $50,000 for the number. The late actor Tyrone Power bought "TP 1" for his luxurious English car. The previous owner of the tag drove a garbage truck.

In protocol- conscious Washington, D.C., an audacious thief scored an automotive, if not a social, coup when he stole plates numbered 1 and 3. These came from the cars of two of the city's three commissioners, the men who head the municipal government.

Even when plates were first issued for purposes of taxation, motorists vied for distinctive tags.

In 1901, New York instituted auto registration, requiring an owner to display his initials on the car in letters at least three inches high. This proved confusing, and soon was replaced by numerical registration.

Motorists had to furnish their own tags. Some attached numbers to a board. Others had harness makers rivet brass digits onto leather plates. The artistically inclined painted their numbers on car bodies and surrounded the series with glowing sunsets, pine-fringed lakes, and similar scenes.

As other states followed New York's lead, motor magazines began carrying advertisements for custom- made plates. One model was made of "hard fibre, bound around the edge with German silver, furnished in any color desired, with raised metal numbers, nickel plated or japanned... Price, complete, and ready to attach to a car, $3 net."

NUMERICAL SCRAMBLE

When the states began issuing their own tags, the result—statewide anonymous uniformity—set off a scramble for low or unusual numbers. An ingenious Wisconsin man named Ole Lee contrived to get plates numbered 337-370, which he affixed upside down to gratify his ego.

By paying an extra fee, Connecticut car owners still can order plates with special combinations of four letters. Two teenage friends had jalopies that sported ROCK and ROLL. A man whose last name is Krout proudly displayed tags reading SOUR.

The urge for numerical oneupmanship permeates all strata of society. A few years ago, an American underworld figure somehow got a low license number. This unnerved his rivals, who felt he must be in official favor, and they fled town— in high- numbered black sedans.

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CENTENNIAL YEAR — AUXILIARY ACCOMMODATION

During the months of July and August next year, accommodations not normally listed will likely be required to house the large number of additional visitors expected here for Centennial Celebrations. In order that such Auxiliary accommodations may be listed in advance, home owners both rural and urban, farm owners, cottage owners, etc., are requested to list now every available unit of accommodation by forwarding detailed information to the Prince Edward Island Travel Bureau, P.O. Box 1087, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

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