The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Electoral Changes

One thing to be said for the new Election Act now before the Legislature is that it will abolish one of the grievances about which so much has been heard in recent years. The Desroches Commission on Electoral Reform, in its majority report, had recommended retaining the property vote, but only where exercised once in any election by a voter, in respect to property situated in his electoral district, in which the property was of a minimum value of $1,000. The new Act would go further than this. It would wipe out the property vote provision altogether, thereby giving every voter the privilege of voting for the two candidates of his choice in his constituency.

It is difficult, in the circumstances, to see what point there is in retaining the old terms of "councillor" and "assemblyman" since they would now be meaningless. They are being retained, apparently, as a polite gesture to historical tradition. But if the tradition is to go by the board, as being incompatibe with our modern democracy, why not let its ghosts rest in peace? The old distinctions served their day and generation; but future voters—if the new bill becomes law—will only be confused on seeing these obsolete terms on the ballot paper.

However, this is a comparatively minor point. The Government has acted on the assumption that if equal voting powers are the rights of every taxpayer, then the compromise proposed by the Commission was only a half-way measure, and would fail in its purpose.

It is surprising, however, that the bill makes no change in the number of electoral districts. In view of population disparities, the Commission had recommended the abolition of one district in Kings and the division of Fifth Queens into two districts, each with two members. This was a major recommendation in the Commission's report, and the reasons for it are just as obvious as were those given for limiting the property vote.

There will, of course, be full discussion on this and other aspects of the legislation when in goes into committee of the whole House. Certainly it is one of the most important measures with which the Legislature will concern itself, and we have no doubt that there will be a desire on both sides to make it as equitable in its provisions as possible.

U.N. Peace Dues

The committee of 21 countries that for several weeks has examined the knotty and complex problem of financing United Nations peacekeeping operations will report to the special session of the U.N. General Assembly meeting May 14 that no decision has been reached. Indeed, the committee is expected to admit—explicitly or implicitly—a total deadlock on this issue.

In the past, the problem of emergency financing had not reached major proportions because of United States willingness to pay more than its share. It was tacitly understood that the U.S. would assist the countries receiving technical assistance to pay their contributions. Quite often Washington would foot half the bill. Now it has said, "No more". It will pay promptly what it owes, but make no more voluntary contributions in behalf of the underdeveloped countries.

The U.N. committee had been entrusted by the Assembly with the task of devising means of compelling state members to pay their share of the expenses of peace-keeping operations. At the moment, they concern the Congo and the emergency force set up in the Middle East to prevent or discourage a direct confrontation between the Arabs and the Israelis. The Soviets, all along, have contended that only the Security Council has the right to vote the expenses and their apportionment among members, and have shown no inclination to accept the ruling of the Assembly in the matter.

During the debates in committee of 21 the Soviets have stuck to their position, accepting no compromise whatever. For different reasons but leading to the same result, the French have taken a stand very similar, and refuse to pay their share of the Congo operation.

Thus the situation stands. The U.N. Secretariat is preparing for the forthcoming General Assembly debate with understandable misgivings. For unless some compromise is reached, the United Nations will no longer be able to fulfill its mandate. Its capacity to act in an emergency will be placed in dangerous jeopardy, and the work of the whole organization may be stultified thereby. The U.N., in short—as one commentator expresses it—"will be stymied."

Brief Interlude

To get momentarily away from political issues, let's take a look at what the astronomers are doing as they peer through their telescopes at Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories. They're formulating new theories about the heavens. Peering at objects so bright that, until recently, they were thought to be stars in our own Milky Way galaxy, the astronomers have discovered that these objects are themselves distant galaxies, involved in tremendous explosions.

At least two of these objects appear to be 100 times brighter than our galaxy of 100,000 million stars. Their surprising brightness, says Dr. Jesse Greenstein, professor of astrophysics at the California Institute of Technolgy, "gives us the hope that we can optically identifv with present telescopes very much more distant objects than was ever thought possible."

He and his associates believe it may be possible to see objects that are 10,000 million to 12,000 million light years away. A light year, in case one has forgotten, is nearly six million million miles—the distance a 186,000-mile-a-second light beam travels in a year.

This is thought to be as far as man will ever see from earth, because distant objects in the universe are receding so fast that light from any source beyond that distance would never reach earth. Never? Well, that's the "expanding universe" theory. Astronomers have found that the farther away an object is, the faster it seems to be going away from earth.

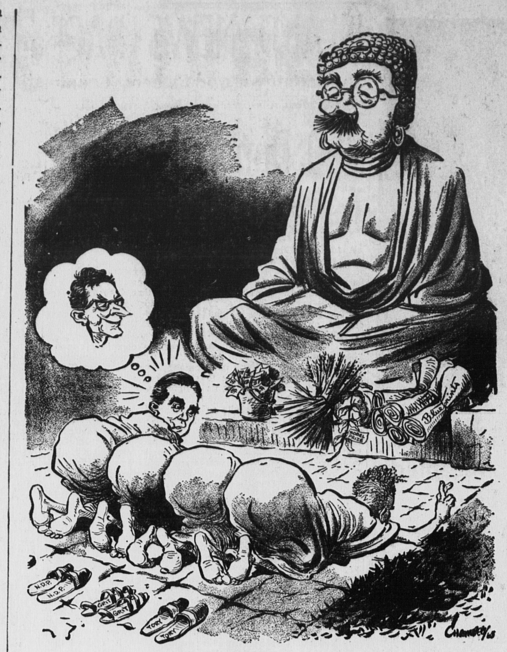
Now back to what our candidates are saying, and the overriding importance of electing their respective parties to power on April 8!

Vandalism In Quebec

An act of vandalism that is causing a great deal of concern in Quebec was the shattering of the Wolfe Monument on the Plains of Abraham. It is not an act, says the Montreal Gazette, that can or should be held against any responsible group in the province. It was quite evidently the work of a few utter extremists, but it may serve to distort and exaggerate issues that need to be reconciled.

According to The Gazette, there is reason to believe that acts of this kind are committed by those whose main objective is to prevent any reconciliation from taking place. They see the gradual growth of insight into Quebec aspirations by Canadians elsewhere as holding the frustration and doom of their own drastic aims. What they seek is to create the impression that any reconciliation must be regarded as beyond all possibility.

The Acting Mayor of Quebec, Mr. Maul Mecteau, says it is "crazy to do these things," and the leader of one of the secessionist groups, the Republican Party of Quebec, has denounced it in strong terms.



AN IDOL FOR A DAY

LOOKING INTO PRECEDENT

Parliament's Opening Date Uncertain

Ottawa Journal

Party leaders speak of calling an early session of Parliament after the April 8 election. How soon can it be?

The election machinery began to roll when the Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Nelson Castonguay, issued writs of election to returning officers across the country. They must be returned on or before a date decided by Cabinet which is May 8 in this election.

The election writ when returned reports to Mr. Castonguay the name of the candidate elected in the constituency, the statements from polls and other information on the vote.

The Chief Electoral Officer, having received the writ, reports it to the Clerk of the House of Commons, Mr. Leon J. Raymond, and makes formal announcement of the candidate's election in an issue of the Canada Gazette. This is done whenever the writ is received, which may be before May 8.

The candidate then is able to present himself to the Clerk and take his oath, pledging true allegiance to the Queen. He is then entitled to claim his seat in the House.

NORMAL COURSE

In the normal course of events the MP takes his seat when Parliament is assembled on a date announced by the Prime Minister. The 1958 election, for example, was on March 31 and Parliament assembled on May 12; in 1962 the election was June 18 and the session began Sept. 27.

In 1963 the various party leaders say they are most anxious to get on with the nation's work promptly and any one of them would be open to criticism were there delay in calling Parliament to deal with such urgent business as the Budget.

Liberal Leader Pearson says that if he has the chance he will call Parliament on May 16, which he considers the earliest practicable date.

Mr. Diefenbaker has not yet stated a date, although the formal date for the resumption of Parliament in the election proclamation is May 16, Mr. Pearson's choice. The formal date given for resumption when an election is announced is almost never the actual day when Parliament resumes, but this year for a change it might be so.

SLAVE OF TRADITION

Parliament is a nervous slave of tradition and the Canadian tradition has been to wait for the Prime Minister, or the man who thinks he has enough support to be Prime Minister, to announce a date of meeting.

This tradition may not be worth two strokes of the Black Rod. For all the rules say 20 or more members may legally claim their right to take their seats in the House by April 24, it being anticipated that writs certifying elections will begin to reach Mr. Castonguay in substantial numbers about April 22.

Who is to stop them if they do claim their seats? The Governor General summons Parliament on the advice of his ministers. If things in the country are normal the Governor General would doubtless decide that waiting until May 16 or even later would be normal. But were there a threat of war or bankruptcy or some other national emergency it is presumably within the Governor General's power to permit those members who wish to open Parliament at once to do so, even if the ministers were reluctant.

PUBLIC FORUM

TOURIST ASSS'N BRIEF

Sir,—The tourist brief presented to the Government of this province, is, I am sure unworthy of the tourist or any other association.

Their plea is they must have freer liquor in order to meet the demands of the tourists. And of course the real reason is so they can make more money in a legalized way.

I am sure there are other things that are much more important to tourists than more liquor.

Then they go on record as opposed to the Causeway. They forget that they are a minority in this Province and are trying to hinder transportation to the detriment of all our Island people.

They try to pull a fast one on all Islanders, wanting the Government to build dams and stock them with trout and only allow tourists to fish in them. We see now what is happening to our fishing and shooting by tourists in this province.

I am, Sir, etc.,
FRANK JONES
Charlottetown.

Sir;— I find it revealing that the Tourist Association brief did not in fact express the views of the full directorship. Their Mr. Linkletter has said so. The brief may in the end have full directorship support but at the time of submission it did not have.

I get a bad odor from this brief, dealing with liquor. The individuality of this Island Province is given scant thought. To conform is the thing. The moral issue they disown and will not enter into deliberations and face the moral implications.

Enters now the Causeway project and enters now a moral issue. Have we the right to deprive the people who cherish a boat sail? This the association feels is a heavy burden. Is it seriously contended that the sail from Wood Islands to Caribou is less pleasurable than the Tormentine-Borden sail? What robs one single person on the face of this earth a boat sail to or from P.E.I. if they wish it? Certainly not a causeway.

Some funny thinking went into this brief. Scratch a builder of this brief and you'll find underneath not solicitude but FEAR. Fear that the Causeway will alter the visiting habits of our tourists. Fear that he'll not stay as long or spend as much. Fear that even if the turnover greatly increases this must inevitably mean more washing. More washing is hard on sheets and pillowcases. Let's face it.

I reduce the real Causeway attitude to a pure and simple domestic problem which the operators must be brave and face.

I am, Sir, etc.,
CAUSEWAY SUPPORTER
Charlottetown.

ABUSES OF MANY KINDS

Sir, — Would there be space in your publication for another case of scribbler's itch, regarding the question of liquor outlets?

It appears most of the comments are from a minority group. Why are those people so sure their views are so right, that they should be forced on everyone? It does not appear the group which have opposite views are trying to force theirs on them.

True there are abuses in the use of alcohol, and they sure point them out, but a great many other things also have abuses. Many people overeat and do harm to themselves. And how about the privilege of car driving? A great many of us abuse it by breaking traffic rules.

I wonder if this group so opposed are really as concerned about the so - called Wayward Brethren, or just want to show the world that they possess a great imagined virtue, non-use of alcohol.

As to the quotations from the Bible to back up their arguments, I believe you can find passages where wine is mentioned, and not condemned. For example, Christ's miracle at the wedding feast, the water turned to wine. (No doubt nonalcoholic!)

I am, Sir, etc.,
WALLACE CHAMPION
Malpeque.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(April 4, 1938)

MONTREAL, April 3 —(CP)— To those "seeking escape" through reading Lady Tweedsmuir suggested "there is nothing like a good murder" to take one's mind off his troubles. Detective fiction was recommended for this type of reader by Lady Tweedsmuir in an "informal couserie" before members of the Maritime Womens Club yesterday.

A celebration at the Canadian Legion Home next Saturday night will mark the 21st anniversary of the capture of Vimy, by the Canadians during the Great War.

TEN YEARS AGO
(April 4, 1953)

Six Island airmen will be in the group of 213 officers, airmen and airwomen to represent the Air Force at the Coronation, it was announced by Air Force Headquarters. The list includes 116 RCAF personnel who will travel from Canada.

Zion Church Mission Guild entertained the patients at the Provincial Infirmary recently with films and music, also a lovely afghan was donated to the institution.

The Poets Corner

APRIL

Miss April tiptoed on the stage
To the wild fanfare of returning birds.
Irresolute she takes her flute and plays
Now in the major, now the minor mode.
A timid bloodroot hides its snowy head
Behind a green-gloved hand
And shudders at the sound.
The curtain falls as Heaven applauds
Her music with a thunderous clap.

—Margaret Furness MacLeod

SENDS MESSAGE

OTTAWA (CP) — The Queen has sent a message of sympathy to Mme. Gaspard Fauteux on the death Friday of her husband, a former lieutenant-governor of Quebec, Government House reported Monday. The message said: "I and my husband have learned with great regret of the death of Monsieur Fateaux and send our sincere sympathy to you and the family."

Leading Fatty Hits 1,000 Lbs.

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Delen

IS THERE a limit to how much a person can gain by eating all he wants? Yes, because the bigger the body, the greater the need for food. In time, the individual has all he can do to consume enough to feed his excess blubber.

The scientific explanation revolves around heat production, which is in direct proportion to body weight. Fat men and women generate more heat than their leaner counterparts. Heat production also is increased by overeating — like putting more coal in the furnace. Thus the calories dissipated through heat loss soon equal the caloric intake of food.

But there is a possibility of becoming elephantine. A 300 to 400 pound man or woman is extremely inactive so that few of the calories consumed in the diet are used for muscular exercise or work output. This adds to the storage of fat and increased poundage.

Despite the fact that the heavyweight spends most of his time sitting and eating, much energy is being produced to metabolize the enormous amount of food. This tends to even the caloric intake and output and may explain why so few humans have exceeded the 500 pound mark.

According to Gould and Pyle, the largest person on record came from North Carolina. He tipped the scales at 1,000 pounds and was 7 feet 8 inches tall. But this man is an exception. Most of the remarkable instances of obesity reported in medical journals were between 400 and 500 pounds, but the exact weight can be questioned.

Marie Francoise - Clay was one of these baby blimps. She lived in poverty and followed her husband, an old - clothes dealer, on foot from town to town. She gave birth to six children and was celebrated for her obesity. At age 40, Marie was 5 feet 1 inch tall and one inch greater around the waist (a trim 62 inches). Her neck was obliterated by the blubber and her breasts were over a yard in circumference. She had so much fat in the armpits, her arms were permanently elevated.

TENDER DANCER

Mrs. T. L. writes: Every time anyone touches me harshly I develop black and blue marks. This is embarrassing since I'm handled quite a bit. Every time my partner lifts me or tries a throw, I bruise so much I have to use a good deal of make-up. Is this anemia?

REPLY

A disturbance in the clotting mechanism of the blood or increased fragility of the capillaries may be responsible. A routine set of blood tests is available to determine the cause of your condition.

ITCH FROM JUICES

J. D. writes: Could drinking too many fruit juices cause rectal itch?

REPLY

Yes, especially when allergy exists or the citric acid changes the acidity of the bowel contents. Send stamped self-addressed envelope for leaflet on rectal itching.

IMMUNITY TO COLDS

M. M. writes: A neighbor claims she never has had a cold or other respiratory infection. Have you any information on why some people are immune in this way?

REPLY

The reasons for a natural immunity to colds are not too well understood. I hope your neighbor knocks on wood when she brags.

RIDING FATIGUE

Mrs. K. Writes: Why does riding in a car tire some people and rest others?

REPLY

It is a matter of relaxation. In time, almost everyone gets tired, depending upon the distance traveled.

Today's Health Hint—

Every human needs an array of reciprocated loves and loyalties.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is reported the Russians can turn out "three-year-old" brandy in three months. In the prohibition era we used to do it here in three days. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

A British minister visiting Canada says that for too long the church has been answering questions that nobody has been asking. In these jaded days, if a question has an answer no one wants to hear it. — Peterborough Examiner.

Salesman — "Yes, sir, of all our cars this is the one we feel confident and justified in pushing." Prospective Customer — "That's no good to me. I want one to ride in." — Galt Reporter.

Don't worry if your job is a little bigger than you are. Every important job has to be tackled by somebody who thought he wasn't quite up to it. — Sarnia Observer.

A husband never realizes how many dishes there are in the house till his wife goes away for a week's vacation. — Chatham Daily News.

His wife awoke in the small hours to hear him stealthily moving things about in the kitchen. "What might ye be lookin' for, darlin'?" she asked. "Nothing, just nothing." "Oh!" said his wife, helpfully. "Then ye'll find it in the bottle where the whisky used to be." — Financial Post.

An African chief who returned home from his first visit to Europe gave this report to his people: "Thousands of people assembled in seats around a great green field. Two groups of men in odd dress ran onto the field, made bending motions and placed themselves in special positions. Then the chief man kicked an object bigger than any egg, and the miracle was produced: rains fell from the heavens."— La Liberte, Fribourg.

New Image For George

Chatham Daily News

In an era when the first thing an ambitious politician does is to hire a publicity expert to create an "image" that is totally unlike him but much more appealing, the great men of the past are, it seems, to be victimized by the same trend.

Thus, in Washington— the state, not the city — a senator is setting out to make over and improve the public image of his great- great- great- great-great uncle.

The remote ancestor to be thus given a new and largely fictitious image is none less than the illustrious Father of his Country, the famous George who could chop down a cherry tree but was stymied when it came to telling a lie.

In other words, George Washington.

State Senator Nat Washington argues that impressions of the first president, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen are tragically incorrect. They picture George Washington as cold, formal and stiff necked.

Whereas, says Nat, George was a warm human being, and ought to be shown that way, for the benefit of posterity.

Accordingly, he has persuaded the State Senate to vote for a "warm and friendly" mural of the first George.

If the House agrees, a painting showing President Washington as a jolly good fellow will shortly adorn the statehouse walls.

At that, less damage may be done than has already been done, here in Canada, by the creation of misleading images of public men.

Pension For P.M's

Toronto Globe and Mail

Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, in a speech at Port Hope, noted that when he steps out of politics he will retire with only his pension as a Member of Parliament. (The maximum amount is $3,000 a year.) He said that those in public life do not enter for the monetary rewards, but at the same time invited his audience to consider that in other countries a special pension is provided for retired Heads of Government.

References to his financial prospects must have been embarrassing to Mr. Diefenbaker, and personal embarrassment is a likely reason that Prime Ministers have not taken steps to correct this situation before. Public life is responsible and risky enough. Defeated or retired Prime Ministers should not be plunged into poverty or forced to rely on private assistance.

Under an Act of 1937, former Prime Ministers of Britain receive pensions of £2,000 a year.

Former Presidents of the United States receive pensions of $25,000 a year for life, plus free mailing privileges and up to $50,000 a year for office help. Their widows get $10,000 a year.

Our Prime Ministers are expected to be men of ability who could do well for themselves in private life. They choose instead to devote their talents to the country, with considerably smaller personal rewards. When their careers are over, the country owes them a pension adequate to maintain them in dignity and comfort.

To Save A Warbler

St. Thomas Times Journal

When once men killed whole herds and flocks for the sheer perverse thrill of mass slaughter, they now take great pains to ensure that the few living remnants go on unmolested and are given the greatest encouragement to survive and multiply. At least one tiny animal is being given that treatment.

That animal is Kirtland's warbler, a half-ounce rarity of fluff and bird bone. No more than 1,000 of the tail-wagging yellow and grey birds exist in the world — a total weight of about 30 pounds. The Kirtland's warbler is not yet on the vanishing list, but it could well be. For some not understood reason of evolution, the bird will nest only in certain patchy stands of jack pine in one area of Michigan. It can't be any old jack pine. It must be a young pine — but not too young, about 10 to 15 years old. The pine must have low-growing, live branches. And it must be somewhere near the Au Sable River valley. Jack pine in other parts of the state doesn't attract the birds. While they fly thousands of miles each year on migrations to the Bahamas, they nest only in the north-central part of the lower peninsula of Michigan.

In a co-operative program being carried out by the Michigan Department of Conservation, the Michigan Audubon Society, the United States Forest Service and the Packaging Corporation of America, power saws are roaring in newly dedicated Huron National Forest near Mio, Mich. Old jack pine is being cut down as the first step in a long-range program of providing more nesting ground for Kirtland's warblers.

Eventually, the Kirtland's Warbler Management Area in the forest will cover more than 4,000 acres and will be under a 60-year rotation of logging, controlled burning, re-growth anr logging. The hope is that it will be enough to save the warbler from almost inevitable extinction.

The
FLYING DUTCHMAN
RESTAURANT
"Your Island Steak House"

Champion Savings Corporation Ltd.
Appointments

FRANK M. WELLS

DOUGLAS A. SINCLAIR

JOS. L. GRIFFITHS

L. R. Champion, President of Champion Savings Corporation Ltd., announces the following appointments:

Frank M. Wells, Director, becomes Vice-President and General Manager: Douglas A. Sinclair, General Sales Manager and Jos. L. Griffiths, Maritime Regional Sales Manager.

Mr. Wells has had a broad experience in the Savings Certificate and Mutual Fund business. He joined Champion Savings twenty-five years ago and has served the Company in various executive positions, including sales.

Mr. Douglas A. Sinclair is promoted to General Sales Manager. Mr. Sinclair, whose background includes extensive experience in the sales of Savings Certificates and Mutual Fund shares, joined Champion Savings eleven years ago. He leaves the position of Atlantic Director of Sales to assume his new assignment.

Jos. L. Griffiths joined the Company's sales division in 1955 and has now been appointed Maritime Regional Sales Manager.