The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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PAGE 6 FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1963.

The Causeway Issue

It is gratifying to note the explanation, in today's Guardian, by the Hon. J. Angus MacLean as to the reference in a recent Ottawa dispatch to an item in the Governor General's Warrants for further investigation to determine the "feasibility" of our Causeway project.

This statement dates back to the estimates which were prepared late in 1961. The decision to build the Causeway was made and announced several months later and the project is now in the planning stage. Under the methods of financing expenditures when the House is not in session, however, the Warrants items have to be listed in exactly the same wording as they appeared in the estimates to which the expenditures have reference.

The feasibility study, Mr. MacLean emphasizes, has in actual fact been completed and further reference to the Causeway would have been contained in the 1963-64 estimates which were not tabled before the House prorogued, and therefore are not made public. The study now is leading up to the actual construction of the Causeway, and is not related to a feasibility study at all.

This is in accord with the Prime Minister's statement in the Commons on April 17 last year, when he said that the studies undertaken since 1958 had been to determine whether the project was feasible from an engineering point of view and justified from an economic point of view, and that "the answer in both cases is in the affirmative."

This is a matter of vital importance to the people of this Province, and to the Maritimes generally. We trust that there will be no further confusion with regard to it. We have endeavored, in these columns, to back the project from its initial stages with all the arguments at our command. We have sought to keep the issue on a non-partisan basis, and have tramped on a good many political toes in doing so. We have no apology to make for that. But we would be remiss in our duty if we did not point out that the Conservatives, at present, are the only party pledged to this undertaking. We have failed to elicit a similar pledge from the Liberal Party leader, Mr. Pearson, and have heard nothing from Mr. Douglas as to the New Democratic Party's views on the matter.

U.S. Dairy Controls

The U.S. Congress is now considering one of its touchiest farm problems—how to reduce the $500 million a year cost of the dairy program. The agriculture committees of both houses, meeting separately, are in session on proposed legislation, about which there has been a good deal of controversy.

The U.S. government has price supported milk, butter and cheese for many years without controls over production. This year, with butter surpluses piling up, President Kennedy asked for new dairy measures in the form of voluntary controls. He suggested a program under which dairy farmers who voluntarily marketed less milk would receive higher price supports than those who did not join the program. But no administration bill to carry out this plan has been introduced as yet.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman has said he would support any bill promising to improve incomes of dairy farmers, reduce the cost of the program to taxpayers, and curb the rise in government stocks of dairy products. Three bills which would modify the present pricing system for fluid milk and milk used for manufactured products are under consideration by the Senate committee, showing a marked disparity in views. One would set the price of surplus milk at a far lower figure than the others. There are also those who believe that the problem will solve itself without any change in law, as production and consumption come into balance.

After the present hearings are concluded the committees will report to Mr. Freeman who will later come up with his own report and recommendation. Under the present law, dairy products are supported by a rate of between 75 and 90 per cent of parity. For many years the cost of the program has averaged about $300 million or less a year. In 1961, however, it rose to more than $600 million.

It Backfired

One of the best Commonwealth schemes to be devised is that of providing large numbers of scholarships to youths of newly developing African and other nations. It is working well, as was noted in these columns recently. But the Communists, too, have been making efforts along this line. The contrast in the results is striking, for nowhere have they shown more clearly their faculty of clumsily wrecking their own clever designs.

They, too, offered tempting scholarships to African students. They carted them off to Moscow and Budapest and Sofia and other centres of the Communist bloc. In Moscow they established a "Friendship" university where the newcomers could be indoctrinated without danger of contamination to the native population. The Africans were herded together—segregated in fact—and fewer and fewer wanted to stay. When they did return home, their stories dissuaded others from accepting invitations to free Russian education at the price of racial segregation and mistreatment.

Now the same thing has been happening in other Communist countries. Currently the spotlight is on Bulgaria. There, recently, some 400 African students, angry at their treatment, formed an African Student Union to put force behind their protests. The government ordered it disbanded and arrested the leaders. When African students marched in protest, police and civilians attacked them, beat them and imprisoned many. About 100 Africans have fled Bulgaria. Most of the others are trying to find a way to get money to get out. Many are asking western embassies for help in doing so.

The story of these misadventures is spreading across Africa and doing more to show up Communism than any propaganda we can dream up.

EDITORIAL NOTES

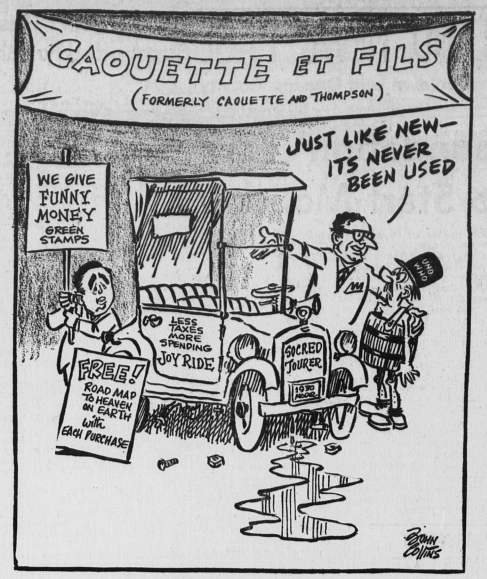
Soviet farms must double their output between now and the end of 1965. So said Premier Khrushchev at a Kremlin conference of some 2,000 agricultural experts the other day. He didn't say how it was to be done. That's for the experts to figure out, or else!

* * *

In line with President Kennedy's program for youth fitness, the story goes that a Wisconsin senator was so enthused that he gave up eating edible food and began to subsist on raw carrots, nuts and wheat grains. He also started walking five miles from his home to the capital, where he shunned the subway trains and ran through the tunnel. He caught his first cold in 47 years.

* * *

We don't know who Lord Shackleton is, but he sits in the British House of Lords as a Laborite, and he gave that august body a rare anthropological titbit the other day. He told it that Polynesian cannibals no longer allow their tribes to eat Americans because their fat is contaminated with insecticides. "We are rather more edible than the Americans," he added reassuringly. "Recent figures published show that we have two parts per million DDT in our bodies, whereas the figure for Americans is eleven parts per million."



THE USED-CAR SALESMAN

THE BALD EAGLE

Fighting To Save A National Emblem

National Geographic News Bulletin

The United States is trying to save the national emblem—the bald eagle—by protecting its golden cousin.

As part of a three-way effort by government agencies, Congress has passed a law protecting all eagles. The bald eagle has been sacrosanct since 1940, but it was often shot mistakenly because it looks like the more populous golden eagle. Both have large, dark-brown bodies and a wingspread of about six feet.

To spur public interest in the magnificent bird's welfare, the Post Office recently put a bald-eagle design on airmail cards.

To learn why the eagle population is dwindling, the National Audubon Society and the Fish and Wildlife Service are conducting a five-year study.

FEWER EAGLES

Once a king of the skies and common over the entire United States, the bald eagle now numbers less than 5,000. The guns of hunters, spreading civilization, and the widespread use of insecticides have taken the life and liberty of many bald eagles.

Eagles have a vicious reputation, largely undeserved. Hunters mistake them for hawks. Farmers blame old "Baldy" for missing chickens and chop down his nesting tree. Egg collectors rob eyries.

The burgeoning population has built roads, factories, and housing developments in places where the eagles formerly nested. Unfortunately, both people and eagles being fish eaters, prefer shore-front property.

Audubon studies in Alaska and Florida, the last two strongholds of the bald eagle, indicate that DDT poisons fish which, in turn, can poison or produce sterility in fish-eating eagles.

Revered in image and persecuted in life: This is the paradox of the American bald eagle.

The bald eagle wasn't even popular with all the country's founding fathers. It took the Continental Congress three committees and a dozen years to decide on an appropriate national symbol. Ben Franklin led the dissidents, calling the bald eagle a "coward, robber, and of bad moral character." He preferred the wild turkey.

The United States Govenment from 1917 to 1952 paid hunters in Alaska a bounty to kill the bald eagle as a pernicious predator. More than 100,000 were slaughtered.

It was not until 1940, 158 years after it had been honored by the Congress, that the bald eagle received legal protection in all the existing states.

ALL-AMERICAN BIRD

Eagle fanciers maintain that the bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) is a most appropriate American emblem. It is native to North America, rarely ventures outside the United States except to friendly Canada.

Strong and swift, the eagle is as majestic as any bird aloft.

Though a bird of prey, "Baldy" is scarcely more rapacious than a sparrow. It lives mainly on fish and has such good eyes that from three miles up it can spot a dead one floating on a lake.

The bald eagle mates for life and returns annually to its huge nest. A nest in Ohio was used for 35 years, weighed two tons. One house-proud eagle furnished its eyrie with scavenged light bulbs, spark plugs, candles, sheets, magazines, and a family photograph in a heavy frame.

PUBLIC FORUM

ACTION NEEDED

Sir,—As a taxpayer of this Province I would like to remind our worthy representatives of the First Electoral District of Kings that the people of Souris River have been sadly neglected when it comes to road plowing.

After every snow storm we are the last road opened. We have had no mail for several days. Roads were to be opened for the school bus, but our students must walk as well as our teachers.

Who is responsible for this unfair treatment? Is it the plow-despatcher? The operators?

How about some action, Mr. MacDonald and Mr. MacLean?

I am, Sir, etc.,
TAXPAYER.

AN EFFICIENT JOB

Sir,—At this time, I would like to compliment the city authorities and through them the individuals responsible for the snow removal. Considering the heavy snowfall and the problems of disposal, I think they did a very efficient job utilizing all the machinery at their disposal, to keep traffic moving.

Like most citizens, we tend to take public efficiency for granted and are as disgustingly slow to commend it. On the other hand, we never hesitate to complain, if we feel the situation merits it.

As our Mayor stated, "Public parking is and will continue to be one of our greatest problems". Those who double-park possibly do not realize how much they tie up the traffic flow, besides impeding the fire department and other essential services. Those utilizing public garages seem particularly prone to make this error, seemingly unaware this merits a heavy penalty in most other cities. After all, the flow of traffic is important and the police cannot be everywhere.

Once again, my congratulations to all concerned.

I am, Sir, etc.,
A CITIZEN

MODERN DRAMA

Sir, — We would like to take issue with "Disgusted" who seems to be very uninformed about the nature of modern drama and its purpose.

He says that "Quest" has produced many programs of a low moral standard." Whose standard is he using? "Quest" and "Playdate" are among the better CBC productions in our minds and in the minds of many Canadians. Agreed these programs are not for children to watch; (1) they are intellectually beyond the mind of a child, and (2) children should be in bed at 11.30.

He condemns "Gallows Humour" on a moral basis. But what about such classics as "The Beggar's Opera" by Gay, which one could say is "muck." Much of "the priceless drama of the ages" is priceless, but it too would collapse under such narrow - minded criticism, which overlooks the real theme of the work.

In our opinion, "Disgusted" should recognize that "Gallows Humour" is representative of the drama of our age. Its purpose is to reflect the people in this age and show their standards. If he does this, the playwright is showing how people act and think. This play, like most other plays, is using satire and exaggeration to convey the truth about our age. When it "hits home," the truth hurts.

We are, Sir, etc.,
TWO STUDENTS
Charlottetown.

LIQUOR CONTROL

Sir,—It is with deep regret that we note that pressure is mounting to have some alteration in the control of the liquor traffic in this province, particularly as it appears that the wish is for relaxation of control.

This is of especial concern to us because it is apparent that this is a matter in which there is deliberate evasion of the ugly facts.

We note the efforts of governments and public agencies as they work strenuously to eradicate killer diseases like T.B. and poliomyelitis while at the same time liquor is often made more readily available; this in the face of the fact that again and again it has been noted that beverage alcohol has been a major contributing factor in many of the cases coming before the courts, not to mention the many derelict lives and homes throughout the province and the incalculable number of lost man-hours directly attributable to the use of alcohol as a beverage.

Sir, we were happy to note that your view of the matter did envisage some enquiry. Therefore we suggest that this enquiry include some evaluation, on a factual basis, of the cost in time and money to this province resulting from liquor indulgence. We suggest, too, that some close look be taken at the way in which clubs are operating to the scandal of law.

We request that controls be tightened and that to save lives and money the Department of Education through its Alcohol Division continue in an all-out programme of education such as has been used to fight other killer diseases.

We compliment the Government on what it is doing in the field of alcohol education and ask that the causes leading to the detrimental effects of alcoholism be faced with the same determination with a view to prevention, as other critical diseases.

I am, Sir, etc.,
C.B. JELLY, Moderator,
On behalf of the executive of the United Baptist Association of P.E.I.

The Poets Corner

THE EASTER LILY

The Easter lily, wondrous fair,
Does not ask the "Why?" and "Where?",
Wasteth not in fret and care,
But humbly stands
Head bowed in prayer.

—R.A. Grindlay, MLA

Getting Drunk Is Escape Hatch From Problems

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

IS ALCOHOLISM a disease? Many authorities are of this opinion and recommend medical treatment and hospitalization when necessary. Total abstinence is essential.

But there are other viewpoints, including that of Dr. Edwin Matlin of Garden City, N.Y. In his opinion, alcoholism is not a disease but a way of life that is desirable to the drinker. He may not admit this but he likes to imbibe for whatever solace it may bring. Getting drunk is an easy way to escape the problems of the day and his responsibilities at home and at work.

This psychological weakness also can be found in drug addicts, prostitutes, and smokers. These people like their way of life and will continue to pursue it until it becomes more advantageous to quit the habit.

Dr. Matlin makes this point in a letter to the editor of the Medical Tribune. He says that calling alcoholism a disease gives the alcoholic a good excuse for imbibing— "I'm sick and can't help myself." There is no doubt these men and women need treatment but Dr. Matlin prefers to tell them that the fault is their own. He is willing to help them if they want it but they must realize that they alone are to blame for problem drinking.

Most psychiatrists have found that alcoholics are more likely to co-operate when they admit drinking too much and really want help. They have physical and social problems, in addition to those of a psychological nature.

The use of alcohol in harmful quantities leads to the shakes, blackouts, neuritis, or cirrhosis of the liver. The social aspects are well known in that alcohol takes precedence over family, occupational, and community activities. But, regardless of any other factor, the alcoholic must admit his dependence upon alcohol, stop his alibis, and surrender to treatment.

DENTAL CHAIR GAGGING

P. G. writes: What can a person do who can't allow a dentist to fix or clean his teeth because of gagging?

REPLY

A tranquilizer may be helpful. If not, the throat can be anesthetized to control the gag reflex.

NOTES BY THE WAY

According to scientists, our ancestors had no chins. As long as you have a chin, you'd better keep it up. — Galt Reporter.

Some married men are born with cold feet, some acquire cold feet and some have cold feet thrust upon them. — Brandon Sun.

Sometimes it is most difficult to follow the logic behind the thinking of a child.

For example, the other day in a Fort William home members of the family were talking about animals. The father asked the five-year-old girl what kind of animal she would like to be. "A bird," she said. The father asked why, and she answered, "So I could eat worms." — Fort William Times Journal.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
March 22, 1938

At the spring convocation of the Presbyterian College in Montreal, two outstanding members of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, Rev. William Orr Mulligan LLB, MA, BD, and Rev. William Patterson, BA, BD, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. Both Mr. Mulligan and Mr. Patterson served in Prince Edward Island pastorates.

Two shipments of ring-necked pheasants, one from Moncton, N.B. and one from Ontario are expected to reach this province shortly, according to word received by the Hon. W.H Dennis, Minister of Agriculture. The birds will be distributed in Queens County.

TEN YEARS AGO
March 22, 1953

Montreal, (CP) — The Ayrshire Society of Quebec has asked that the federal government impose a tax on vegetable oils imported for manufacture of margarine. It termed the substitute a "grave menace" to Canada's dairy industry.

Plans for the 2nd Canadian Jamboree at Ottawa this summer were discussed at the monthly meeting of the Provincial Council of the Boy Scouts Association held yesterday. The Prince Edward Island contingent will consist of 33 Scouts of at least First Class rank, and three leaders.

Of the many predictions that have never come to pass, the one most frequently made is that there will soon be a cure for the common cold. — Welland Tribune.

A bank manager claims that fewer people keep their money in stockings today. The reason is, of course, that there are too many runs in stockings today.— Peterborough Examiner.

Regardless of how many times a husband changes jobs he's always working for the same people, the wife and kids. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Children would be more easy to handle if you pretended they were the neighbor's — everyone knows how to bring up other people's Children. — Brandon Sun.

A good way to have the world beat a path to your door is to take a quiet nap. — Montreal Star.

A doctor suggests that modern eating habits are partly responsible for crime. The worst crime, perhaps, is what you have to pay for food — Chatham Daily News.

The automobile, as most people know, put the horse out of business. Fortunately, at the time all this was in progress, a new industry was a-borning in a sleepy California town called Hollywood.

Today, while men talk of space travel, the marriage of Hollywood and horses is as strong as ever. According to the American Humane Association, over 1,200 horses found employment in movies and television shows last month alone. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

About the silliest proposition conceived by silly people in a modern society that has a merchant for silliness is that put to Mrs. John Kennedy in Washington. Members of the Society for Indecency to Naked Animals marched to the White House to protest the fact that the horses ridden by the first lady of the United States appeared in public clad only in shoes and a saddle. The Society members want all horses clothed. Mrs. Kennedy might well have told her callers to take a big jump into the dirty puddle of prudery from whence they were spawned. — Fort William Times Journal.

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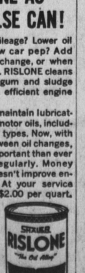

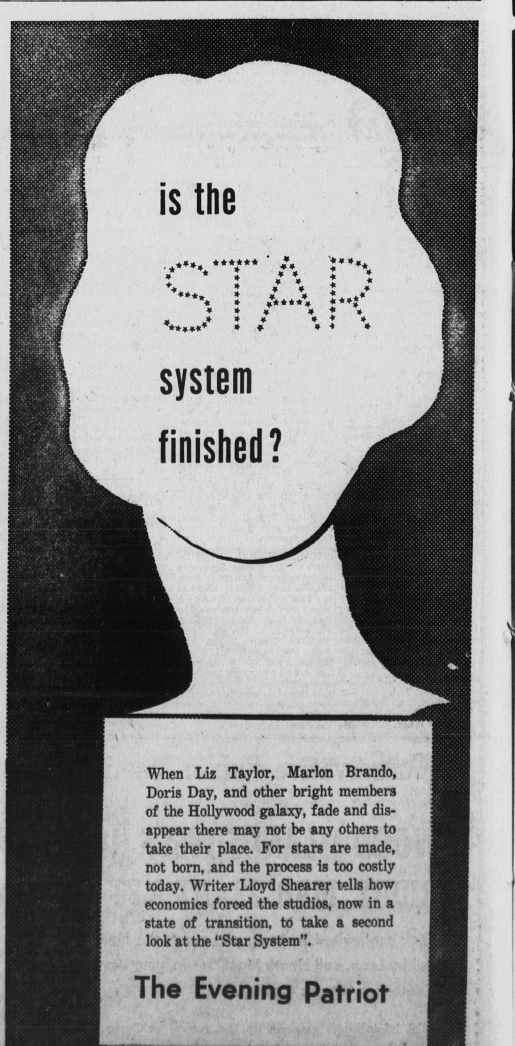

When Liz Taylor, Marlon Brando, Doris Day, and other bright members of the Hollywood galaxy, fade and disappear there may not be any others to take their place. For stars are made, not born, and the process is too costly today. Writer Lloyd Shearer tells how economics forced the studios, now in a state of transition, to take a second look at the "Star System".

The Evening Patriot