

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
Wallace Ward
Managing Editor
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verbal beaver. He probes into every corner of government service, be it a government department, a hospital, a prison, or a court of law—a judge who loses his temper with a witness...

One of the most powerful weapons of the ombudsman is the correspondent of the Swedish news agency who comes daily to his office, sits at a desk set aside for him, and goes over the day's files.

The ombudsman himself is always a lawyer and is elected by a special parliamentary committee for a period of four years. During his term of office he is responsible to nobody.

Approximately nine out of ten of the complaints that come to the ombudsman prove to be unfounded, but he investigates them all, however absurd or trivial.

The ombudsman never decides a case without allowing a person complained about to explain his action, and no official is prosecuted merely for having acted stupidly.

When he spoke in Montague on November 20 last, Mr. Pickersgill said there was "absolutely no question now" about the causeway being built, and he "hoped" to see the project under way in 1965.

There seems no question now that a definite decision has been taken with regard to making an early start on the project. Otherwise the Transport Minister's statements would be both irresponsible and inexcusable.

One question not dealt with in Mr. Pickersgill's statements is whether the causeway will carry rail traffic or not. It is assumed, from a recent remark by Solicitor General MacNaught, that it will do so.

The campaign in Selma is only the beginning of a Negro voters' drive throughout Alabama's midsection and southern section where the Negro population is concentrated.

The population of Dallas County, of which Selma is the government seat, is about 55,000. It is 58 per cent Negro; yet out of a voting age population of 15,000 Negroes, only 600 are registered.

President Johnson is seeking the approval of Congress for increased research efforts to learn more about the effects of pesticides on the environment. There is at present a ceiling of \$2,565,000 on annual appropriation for this work, and he has asked that it be removed.

North Carolina is thinking of passing an anti-necking law. It would make it unlawful for a driver to embrace his companion while operating a vehicle on a public road.

No government official, high or low, is safe from the Swedish ombudsman, who is as busy as the pro-



THE IDES OF MARCH

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Backroom Planners Keen On Election

With our mud-enlaced ship of state seemingly now steered on a course which will bring abundant further discredit to politics, many Liberals are anxiously doing a little bit of arithmetic.

How It Is In Britain

Once a year in England, the Central Office of Information publishes a book called "Britain: An Official Handbook". This volume contains a maze of statistics that give the average Briton a good idea of what he is like and how he lives.

Leading A Horse To Water

Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson was right when he said in New York the other day: "If the Geneva agreements had provided for supervision in policing and enforcement, infiltration of Laos and South Vietnam from outside could have been checked in time."

Our Yesterdays

Twenty-five years ago (March 16, 1949) Premier Mussolini and Adolf Hitler conferred at the Brenner Pass, on the German-Italian border, at the town of Brennero, the last Italian town on the border near the pass.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of correspondence of general 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 correspondence regarding letters published.

Mental Disorders

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
The care of those with schizophrenia, the most malignant of all mental disorders, has been revolutionized. Much of the credit goes to phenothiazine drugs and electric-convulsion therapy which have made it possible to control early manifestations of the disease.

A man, chided by his employer for chronic tardiness, had an ingenious response. "Hello, boss," he said, "you have drilled me so thoroughly about never watching the clock here at the office, I've lost the habit at home."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The fact that Canadians owe a total of \$5,397,000,000 for credit purchases and personal loans offers little comfort for the man who only owes \$97 and is worried about meeting the debt.

Viet Nam Solution

An article in Peking People's Daily, official organ of the Chinese Communists, contains what may be a clue to the direction and purpose of U.S. policy-makers in escalating the Viet Nam war.

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Table listing travel prices for various cities: Sackville \$2.20, Moncton \$2.90, Truro \$3.70, Saint John \$4.30, Halifax \$4.80, Antigonish \$5.20, Sydney \$9.50, Quebec \$12.15, Montreal \$13.00, Ottawa \$15.70, Winnipeg \$35.00, Edmonton \$47.00.