The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Will Congress React?

According to a Paris correspondent for the Associated Press, the future of the Western alliance may now hinge on the question of who is tougher—youthful President Kennedy or the aging but durable enigma of Europe, President de Gaulle. The world, says this correspondent, will likely be witnessing two cold wars within the big one—in the East between the Soviet Union and Red China, in the West between the United States and France.

This may be an exaggeration, but it underlines the fact that Britain's lost battle to join the European Common Market is a severe blow to Western unity, and that there is as keen resentment at Washington over de Gaulle's attitude as there is in London. And this could lead to unfortunate results.

The danger lies not so much in President Kennedy's reaction, as in the latent isolationism in the American Congress. A clear warning of this was flashed last week when House Republicans named five so-called "conservatives" to the Foreign Affairs Committee, virtually guaranteeing increased opposition to foreign-aid spending and similar activities.

No President is in full command of the opinionated, purse-string-holding Congress when it comes to foreign affairs. Mr. Kennedy has found this out already, as did Truman and Eisenhower before him. Last year it slashed $1.032 million from the President's foreign-aid request, despite his most ardent pleas. He also had trouble in obtaining authorization for the loan to save the United Nations from bankruptcy in its peace-keeping operations in the Middle East and the Congo. This year, big federal deficits will not make American internationalism any easier. Congress is now putting its affairs in order for the presidential election campaign of 1964, whose preliminary skirmishes begin this year, and both parties want to get behind popular issues.

The United States' world interest began in World War One and has been kept active in late years by apprehension over Communism and nuclear war. But the older American tradition of isolationism is just below the surface and could take strange forms under provocation. Part of the studied moderation of the Kennedy response to President de Gaulle is doubtless due to his awareness of this danger.

A Fine Achievement

It is evident from the reports submitted at the first annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island United Appeal organization that this venture into co-operative fund raising on behalf of our health, welfare and recreational organizations has been successful, and that the system will be continued in future. As of Dec. 31, of the $227,486 quota being sought, $215,095 or approximately 95 per cent has been donated or pledged. While the campaign officially closed at the end of November, returns are still coming in and there is every reason to expect that the full quota will be reached.

In his presidential report Mr. Russell Seller paid tribute to "the outstanding leadership and hard work of those volunteers who so readily accepted the challenge of this first Province-wide united fund appeal." The tribute is well deserved, and includes all who participated in putting the campaign across. But a great deal of the credit is due to Mr. Seller himself and to Brigadier W. W. Reid, campaign chairman, for their magnificent efforts. It was pleasing to note the recognition given to them in this connection at Tuesday night's meeting, in the presentation of plaques, suitably engraved, by Provincial Secretary J. David Stewart. Note was also taken of the devoted work of Mr. Jack Amber, full-time executive secretary, and of the cooperation shown by the firm of R. T. Holman Ltd. in enabling Mr. Seller to devote so much of his time to planning and organizing the movement.

Nothing succeeds like success, and we may hope that last year's efforts will pay dividends for years to come in facilitating further activities by the organization in its annual appeals. But it will still require energetic and experienced leadership. This has been assured for 1963 by the election of Mr. Frank W. Curtis and his associates on the executive, to whom we extend best wishes for success during the coming months.

Farm Credit Changes

Of general interest is the announcement by Agriculture Minister Hamilton at Ottawa this week of two important amendments to regulations under the Farm Credit Act. A recent change in the Act set an upper limit on the appraisal fees which the Farm Credit Corporation may charge applicants for loans; a new regulation sets the fees somewhat lower than is permitted under the Act. Another amendment allows postponement of loan installments under special circumstances.

Also, a new formula replaces the former $50 and $100 appraisal fees chargeable for standard and package-deal loans, the chief result of which will be lower appraisal fees under these headings.

Under the new arrangement, a borrower developing a new enterprise from which revenue will be so limited in the first year or two as to make repayment a hardship, may arrange at the time of obtaining his loan from the Farm Credit Corporation for the postponement of installment payments due in this initial period. This provision, it is emphasized, may apply particularly to farmers switching from dairy to beef production.

The Food Problem

Even if farm production in many areas of the world were doubled or tripled, there would still be the problem of teaching the people what makes up a proper diet. For this reason the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is carrying out school-garden projects in many countries. In these projects children learn better principles of nutrition through growing food in their own gardens and preparing it in the school kitchen.

In Latin America there is a pattern of overworked, overcrowded farm land running like a chain of frustration down through the Mexican highlands southward along the length of the Andes. Farming methods are usually primitive and there is little use of fertilizers or highly selected seeds. In other areas, whole reaches lie untouched and practically uninhabited. Much of what is now desert, jungle, malaria-ridden, land simply abandoned or difficult of access, could be made productive. Yet another factor is concentration on cash-crop agriculture at the expense of a better diversification.

One of FAO's biggest efforts here will come this year at La Molina, near Lima, where, for the next three years, the Organization will be giving one year courses to agronomists who actually run Latin American agriculture—or as many of them as it can handle.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Other politicians may get their pictures taken holding a trout they had caught, or a goose they had bagged, but not Social Credit Leader Robert Thompson. All he needs to attract attention is to go out these cold days in Ottawa wearing his leopard-skin hat and coat collar made from the hide of an animal he had shot while in Ethiopia. His picture in this dazzling outfit is a dilly, and puts him in a different class altogether from his rod-toting and shotgun-carrying associates on Parliament Hill.

A GREAT BOTANIST

Foiled Bandits In China's Wild West

National Geographic News Bulletin

The life of a botanist may be more perilous than the gathering of the plant specimens suggests.

The recent death of the eminent plant explorer, Dr. Joseph F. Rock, recalls his hairbreadth escapes from death in the primitive western regions of China during the 1920's.

The country was torn by civil war, with Communists, Nationalists, and other elements lock-eying for power. The rugged Chinese interior was a battleground for struggles between war lords and demon-fearing local chiefs. It was infested by bandits, who looted defenseless villages and constantly attacked travelers and traders.

A NIGHT AMID COFFINS

Two of Dr. Rock's expeditions (1923-24 and 1927-30) were sponsored by the National Geographic Society. Reporting on the first of these in the September, 1925, National Geographic Magazine, Rock told of being trapped by bandits in the funeral chamber of an old temple in a small settlement north of Yunnanfu.

While the small army he had hired for protection kept the brigands at bay, the explorer sat amid coffins, with two 45-caliber pistols in hand, and his precious plant collection nearby.

By morning the bandits had disappeared, though Dr. Rock noticed the heads of several hanging from poles outside the village.

Military authorities then controlled that part of Yunnan Province, but it was not easy to distinguish between regular soldiers and robbers.

One of Rock's own retinues was later headed by a chief who had been a notorious outlaw before joining the authorities. His influence in brigand circles made him a valuable escort.

On far-ranging travels into the wild, mountainous frontier of China and Tibet, Dr. Rock found nature no less brutal than human predators.

Fighting blizzards and trudging over icy passes more than 16,000 feet high, he was forever cold and miserable. His caravan of men and mules crossed rivers on inflated goatskin rafts or by sliding along frail, rope-and-vine bridges that threatened to drop them into the waters below.

WEIRD RITES

Dr. Rock explored Southeast Asia for more than 20 years. His quest took him into deep forests and across bleak treeless wastes and flowering meadows. He witnessed weird Buddhist rites in lonely lamaseries, was welcomed and feasted by friendly communities, and once met a bloodchilling scene of massacre in a Tibetan village that had been raided by enemies.

When he died in Honolulu at the age of 79, Dr. Rock left behind an impressive list of contributions to world knowledge and betterment.

From the hills of Burma he brought back seedlings of the chaulmoogra tree whose oil is used to treat leprosy. Among the thousands of plants he collected in China and other Asian lands were hundreds of varieties of rhododendrons and a long-sought blight-resisting chestnut tree.

Besides plants, he assembled a Noah's Ark of bird and mammal specimens from the areas he visite. He studied and reported on the life and religions of remote tribal groups.

In his roamings, Dr. Rock also photographed, mapped, and sketched the little-known gorges of the upper Yangtze, Mekong, and Salween Rivers. Through the pages of National Geographic he gave the outside world its first close look at the awesome Amne Machin and Minya Konka mountain ranges of the China-Tibetan borderlands—a region that has lately gained strategic significance in the light of Red China's expansionist drive.

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 correspondence regarding letters submitted.

A TRIBUTE

Sir,—May we be allowed a small space in the public columns of your newspaper to express a brief tribute to Mr. C. W. MacArthur who today retires as Chief of Police for this city.

The John Howard Society has been active in this province only since 1960 but in that short period of time it has performed an important service to many men who otherwise would probably not have found a friend or the assistance they needed upon their release from prison.

In its work the Society in turn needed guidance and support from those who were best fitted to provide it and in this respect "Chief" MacArthur became an outstanding benefactor. From him we received interest and patronage at a time when, as a fledgling organization, it was most needed. From him we received guidance and counsel and the full benefit of his wisdom from years of working with the penal offender and, above all, from him we received inspiration and encouragement when disappointments might otherwise have altered our course.

May we therefore publicly acknowledge and express our deep debt of gratitude to the retiring Chief and wish him a long and happy retirement.

We are, Sir, etc.,

The John Howard Society of Prince Edward Island,
N.W. LOWTHER, QC, President,
WENDALL MacKAY, Secretary-treasurer.

The Struggle For Europe

By Alan Harvey
Canadian Press Staff Writer

"We are whelps from the same litter . . ."

That is the sentimental vision of Anglo-French relationships, sententiously expressed in the euphoric haze of many an after-dinner speech.

This week, with the apparent failure of Britain's bid to join the Common Market, a grimmer reality emerges, and the struggle for Europe is joined in a wider, almost certainly tougher, context.

In the crisis for the West that now seems to be developing, commentators expect the next move to come from President Kennedy, whose "grand design" for Europe is challenged by General de Gaulle's concept of a European third force led by France and Germany.

As long as de Gaulle clings to power, with not much outside support except that reluctantly given by Chancellor Adenauer of West Germany, France can probably keep Britain out of Europe against the wishes of Italy and the Benelux countries.

U.S. HAS CHOICE

But the last word may lie with Washington. Kennedy can play for time, hoping that Adenauer's retirement in October will remove de Gaulle's chief prop and bring a new, more overtly pro-British administration to power in Bonn.

Or the American president may apply what the Manchester Guardian calls his "ultimate sanction," by going slow on U.S. tariff reductions and closing a large part of the American market to continental Europe.

In the last resort, says the Guardian, Kennedy would use this sanction "with resolute force."

Similarly Bruce Rothwell, Washington correspondent of The Daily Mail, writes in the London newspaper that the United States cannot drop out of Europe.

"America is not in Europe merely to protect Europe," writes Rothwell. "It is there because that is where the cold war is being decided."

BLOW FOR BRITAIN

Nevertheless, the French veto is a bitter blow for Britain. Sixteen months and many sleepless nights of negotiation have gone for naught.

With the British economy stagnating while the Common Market flourished, ministers had hoped that entry into Europe would liberate new energies and produce a surge of expansionism.

Instead, Britain has not only failed to get in on the ground floor of the new Europe, but has been ignominously turned away at the tradesmen's entrance.

For the time being, fine speeches about Anglo - French friendship won't make much impact in Whitehall.

DEFECTOR RETURNS

BERLIN (Reuters)—A British soldier, who defected to East Germany in 1960, returned here last week and has been taken to Britain for interrogation. A British Army spokesman said Wednesday, Pte. Gilbert Paul Tenkerson, 22, of Lovestoft, Suffolk, will undergo further interrogations before authorities decide what action will be taken against him.

Foot Blisters Need Treatment

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

SHOULD blisters on the feet be opened or left alone?

In my opinion, a large blister must be opened, especially one on the bottom of the foot. Unless this is done, the individual cannot get the shoe on and there is a good chance that the bleb will break on standing or walking.

The lesion should not be opened with a pin or needle. Skilled care is needed. The area must be cleaned carefully with alcohol and opened with a sterile surgical scissors or nicked with a scalpel. The dead skin is cut to nearly the edge of the blister—never to the normal skin. Sterile petroleum gauze is placed over the raw surface or is painted with a two per cent watery solution of gentian violet.

The area is covered with gauze and a felt pad containing a hole slightly larger than the blister itself. In this way, pressure is removed from the irritated spot. These lesions must not be neglected as they can be disabling, especially when they become infected.

We object to opening small blebs, particularly with a needle. The material within a blister is sterile and the only way bacteria can get in is via this way. The opening made by the needle is small and it usually seals off after the secretion escapes. More fluid accumulates, and, if bacteria are present, infection is in the making.

Most small blisters heal spontaneously if they are covered with a small bandage until the fluid absorbes. If they must be opened, a good size nick is made that will not close over quickly.

Blisters are best avoided by wearing well fitted shoes and socks. Athletes are conscious of the problem and basketball players are said to be bothered more than football players. The former are subject to greater friction and some athletic directors try to toughen the soles of the feet by recommending the application of compound tincture of benzoin during the first few weeks of practice and the wearing of two pairs of socks. Football players also wear two pairs of socks and buy their shoes in the spring; by the fall season they are well broken in.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self- addressed envelope accompanies request.)

HEART MURMUR INFECTION

M. J. writes: Is subacute bacterial endocarditis a complication of rheumatic heart disease?

REPLY

Yes. The battle scarred valves of a person with this type of heart disease are susceptible to streptococci that enter the body during respiratory infections or following the extraction of teeth. The micro-organisms settle in the heart valves and form warlike growths that break off and are propelled to all parts of the body by the blood. This is true blood poisoning, a condition that was 100 per cent fatal prior to the advent of penicillin.

SENILE FRECKLES

C. H. L. writes: What can be done with senile freckles?

REPLY

Nothing need be done unless they begin to thicken, crust, or ulcerate, in which case removal by surgery or radiation is suggested. These lesions can be hidden with cosmetics when they are too unsightly.

BICYCLING FOR ARTHRITIS

R. S. writes: My 60 year old mother has osteoarthritis of the spine. Would riding a bicycle help her?

REPLY

Good grief. There is no harm in riding a bicycle but a hot bath and simple bending exercises are safer and will help more.

BEER DRINKER

P. H. writes: Would a person who drinks beer (only) to excess be considered an alcoholic?

REPLY

Yes, because beer contains ethyl alcohol, the number one culprit in alcoholism.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Take a long look at yourself.

RISE IN TRADE

Between 1954 and 1961 Britain's imports rose by a third and exports by two-fifths.

NOTES BY THE WAY

When a college student gets a job despite his education, it's the power of mind over matter. —Brandon Sun.

There are two kinds of voters: Those who support the candidate of your choice, and the blankety - blank ignorant prejudiced fools. — Sudbury Star.

No Harp Maker Left

Fred Ross In The Listener

Today there is no longer a harp maker in the Principality of Wales. Nor it seems is there anyone who can repair one. Consider the plight of the man who takes his harp to a party in Wales and then breaks it during one of those rousing choruses that make Twickenham tremble when the Welsh Rugby XV comes south. He will have to pack his harp off to—of all places— London to be mended. And this not only costs money but also takes time.

New harps are rarities, and most of them come from France. I am told it is possible to buy one from Italy for about £500 or from America for about £700, but these are prices that would even shatter the self-assurance of an eisteddfod compere. This is a national crisis—so serious that the Welsh Harp Music Society, Cymdeithas Cerdd Dant, has stepped in at the eleventh hour to save from extinction this centuries-old art.

It is planning to open in Montgomeryshire a workshop that will not only repair harps but eventually manufacture them as well. It is not only the national eisteddfod but also the meetings of bards held in almost every town and village in Wales that need the harps; other organizations too are concerned in the revival of interest in the music that by tradition accompanies the language of heaven.

So it is with some dismay that the Welsh Harp Society looks over a land where pianos abound and even jukeboxes resound but the harps become fewer and fewer. With understandable bitraeth, or longing, they remember the golden days when harpists and harp makers had their patrons. But lyrical though the Harp Society may be, it is also practical. The workshop, says one of its leading members, may be out last chance to save the harp.

New Railway Line

Ottawa Citizen

The Great Slave Lake Railway is a new name in transportation circles. It is still unfamiliar for the good reason that it is still under construction.

However, the railway is far enough advanced that early in Novcembr the first grain shipments were made southward over its line. That was from Manning, Alta., where one grain elevator has already been built and several others are arising.

Manning is 56 miles north of Peace River, and lies in a region well suited for the growing of wheat in spite of the northerly latitude.

But the Peace River district has long been handicapped by a shortage of rail transportation. This defect is to be corrected at last by the construction of a railway into the Northwest Territories, a project in the hands of Canadian National Railways.

The destination of the new line, as the name indicates, is Great Slave Lake, and minerals as well as grain have a large part in the project. As a result, further tracts of northern Canada are being brought closer to markets.

Much is said nowadays about new highways and air services into the North. But the railway still has its part to perform, in spite of the prognostications of those who declare the iron horse has had its day.

Battered Jobless Fund

The Financial Post

A new approach to Canada's Unemployment insurance will have to be forthcoming soon, says Grenier in The Financial Post. Bashed, battered, misunderstood and misused, the Unemployment Insurance Fund promises to go bankrupt sometime this winter — probably late February or early March.

At the end of October it had $89.9 million in the kitty and the November figures were expected to show a slight net gain with December a "break - even" month. Then in January and February the floodgates open. Right now the fund has only one emergency backstop: $25 million from the federal government. Beyond that it will be up to the cabinet to draw a major set of new rules.

In making these rules it will have the help of the Gill Report on the fund. But even without the benefit of the Gill Committee's findings, it is easy enough to pinpoint the main troubles the fund has faced. Top of the list, without doubt, has been the politicians' enthusiasm for using the fund as a vote-getting shell.

It has been kicked back and forward since 1950 when the Liberals made the first basic change in the formula. They extended its benefits to seasonal workers who knew perfectly well they would lose their regular employment with the coming of hard winter.

Close behind the attitude of the politicians, in the causes of trouble for the fund, is the outlook of the public. The officials who have to run the operation as best they can recognize that far too many people look upon unemployment insurance as a form of welfare — money they might just as well try to get their hands on.

As both Liberal and Tory governments have had much the same attitude, officials sadly admit it may be unrealistic to expect a much different public reaction.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(January 31, 1938)

Important problems demanding solution in Prince Edward Island agriculture were pasture improvement, use of limestone, and the question of weed control, B.F. Tinney, assistant superintendent of the Charlottetown Experimental Station, said in the course of a lecture to a seminar at the station last week.

Thomas R. Sullivan, for a considerable time a member of the staff of the Moncton Branch of the Bank of Montreal, has been transferred to Charlottetown, P.E.I., and will take up his new duties upon arrival.

TEN YEARS AGO
(January 31, 1953)

Two new officers have joined Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Kent, Lieut. J. D. W. Smallwood, Commanding Officer of the Corps announced last night. The officers are Sub-Lieutenants Wendall MacLaine and Harry Thomsen, both of Charlottetown.

Dr. Lloyd W. Shaw, deputy minister of education, left this week for Halifax where he will address the final session of the workshop in school administration being conducted there. The workshop is sponsored by the Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Michigan.

TRAVEL BARGAINS

Charlottetown to:
Sackville, $2.10
Moncton, $2.80
Truro, $3.80
Saint John, $4.80
Halifax, $5.20
Antigonish, $5.60
Sydney, $9.20
Quebec, $11.25
Montreal, $12.50

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