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"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1955

Highly Favoured

Yes, there is no doubt about it, this part of the world is very highly favoured. While, only a few hundred miles away, forest fires are ruing hundreds of thousands of acres of good woodland and threatening entire communities with destruction, this Island is comparatively safe from widespread conflagration, for the simple and obvious reason that there are no great tracts of forest to attract the flames of any small fires that might occur.

As with forest fires, so with drought, which already this summer has caused farm losses in Ontario and Quebec to the extent of nearly \$100 million; it is practically unknown here. It is very rarely, indeed, that a rainless heat-wave lasts more than two or three weeks; usually, rain alternates with sunshine to make virtually ideal growing weather.

But, in this respect, too, caution is in order. The fact that prolonged drought has hitherto stayed away from our shores is no reason for assuming that it will always do so. If—as is quite possible—the remaining part of the summer should turn out to be unusually hot, wells could very easily dry up. Anyhow, there is no excuse for wastage of water under any conditions: it is much too precious a commodity to be accorded anything but the most careful handling.

Still another evidence of our favoured position is the report that as things stand now, the overall crop this year will be satisfactory, and probably bountiful, whereas in many parts of Canada and the United States, it is expected that large numbers of cattle will have to be slaughtered prematurely, and at considerable loss to farmers, because there will be no feed for them. Yes, there are many reasons why we should—in humility—count our blessings daily.

Questions and Answers

A report from Ottawa says that Secretary of State Pinard was told in the Commons by a Conservative member that his department is much too slow in answering questions put on the order paper. In his defence, Mr. Pinard replied that, while he is responsible for seeing that returns are made, he is not responsible for the speedy conveying of information which is supplied to him by other departments. In that, of course, Mr. Pinard is right. He has no way of compelling other departmental heads to work in a less leisurely fashion.

At the same time, the criticism in general would appear to be justified. If, as was pointed out by the Conservative critic without contradiction by any Cabinet minister, it took 3 1/2 months to obtain figures concerning the travelling expenses of 12 Cabinet ministers, and even then no information was forthcoming concerning the other 8, something is obviously wrong. One would imagine that a simple question like that could have been answered within a week at the longest.

Asking questions is one of the major duties of Opposition members. It is one of the few ways they have of exercising their parliamentary function of keeping check on Government practices and expenditures. So long as questions are reasonable and in the public interest—as the one that was asked about the travelling expenses certainly was—they merit prompt and detailed answers. On the other hand, of course, Opposition members are expected to use common sense and discretion in asking information. This, however, probably presents no great difficulty.

If Parliament is anything like

other deliberative bodies, it does not take long for ministers to distinguish between the sincere and earnest interrogator and the chronically inquisitive individual who asks one inconsequential question after another just for the fun of it. The latter, in his way, is just as much a hindrance to the parliamentary process as is the Cabinet minister who takes his time about giving out important information.

They Should Come Here

The news that a group of Russian "agriculturists" (they are just practical farmers, really), now visiting the American Mid-West, will be coming to Canada in late August, will be received, we believe, with general satisfaction. In the main, they will see in the Western Provinces very much the same sort of farming conditions with which they have become familiar during their sojourn in Iowa and adjacent States, although of course there will be some new things to occupy their attention. The important thing is that they will see for themselves—and perhaps distribute the knowledge when they get back to Russia—that, while the Canadian economy is closely tied to that of the United States, it is by no means subservient to it, a fact which constitutes an obvious denial of the propaganda which Communists have been preaching for years: that Canada is an economic and military satellite of the United States.

Maritimers, however, will see no reason why the visit of the Russians should be confined to the Western and Central Provinces, an arrangement which the report from Ottawa, concerning the projected visit, would seem to imply. How can visitors from any foreign country report to their friends that they have seen a good cross-section of Canadian agriculture (that, of course, is their purpose in coming) without having set foot on Atlantic soil? It just isn't reasonable.

This Province has a special right to be included in the itinerary. Quite apart from our supremacy in hog-raising, a fact which should be broadcast far and wide—yes, even behind the Iron Curtain—where else, this time of the year, could a visitor from abroad see the beauty and the riches of the earth, and all the good things of an agricultural economy, in a more appropriate setting? The answer is: nowhere at all. Why, one look at this Island in all its pastoral glory might even convert the Russian visitors from the folly of their Marxist ways to something that is infinitely more enriching and more stimulating. At any rate, it is meet and right that they should be given the opportunity of seeing Canada's fairest plot of earth; and our M.P.'s can be expected to lose no time in making the proper representations to the officials who are planning the itinerary.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thomas Gray, author of the beloved Elegy written in a Country Churchyard, died this date, 1771.

The United States Congress is considering drastic legislation to cope with exploitation of the public by promoters of worthless stocks. The same trouble is evident in this country. The best protection against all such rackets, however, is plain common sense on the part of the potential buyer. So long as there are people who take delight in being hoodwinked, there will be unscrupulous salesmen on the rounds.

Up to June 30 last, 11,000 pounds of Prince Edward Island butter were sold by the Agricultural Prices Support Board to institutions at a discount, according to information tabled recently in the House of Commons. The figures, in pounds, for other Provinces are: Newfoundland 7,000, Nova Scotia 71,000, New Brunswick 65,243, Quebec 870,250, Ontario 500,974, Manitoba 85,000, Saskatchewan 135,000, Alberta 117,073, British Columbia 121,357.

One swallow doesn't make a summer, but one Conservative appointment to the Senate by a Liberal Prime Minister may indicate a new trend in selecting members of the Upper House along non-partisan lines. At any rate, the choice of Senator Hackett was an excellent one. Four other appointees are said to have no apparent party connections. The late Prime Minister Bennett set this laudable precedent years ago by appointing a noted Liberal, the late Senator Patrick Burns.



Hats Off To Senator Inman!

A Future In Rain-Making

By Joe MacSweeney Canadian Press, Montreal

The scholarly-looking man with the horn-rimmed spectacles fixed his questioner with an earnest gaze and explained: "Actually, we're not rain-makers. What we make is snow."

Rain or snow, Bernard A. Power, meteorologist, is convinced that what he makes has a great future. Rain-making, one of the world's newest professions, currently is having a boom as a weapon against rampaging forest fires.

WEATHER CONSULTANTS

Mr. Power, 36, native of Moncton, N.B., is vice-president of Weather Engineering Corporation of Canada, of which Toronto-born Paul J. Denison, 33, is president. "Everybody talks about the weather, but we're among the few who try to do something about it," said Mr. Denison with a smile.

Denison and Power, heading Canada's first and only firm of weather consultants, were interviewed at headquarters here, while they conducted long-range rain-operations against a forest fire near Baie Comeau, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence river.

VETERAN METEOROLOGISTS

Denison and Power, both veterans of more than 10 years' service with the meteorological service of Canada, are men of serious and scientific outlook, working with masses of weather information from Europe to Siberia.

Power, with service in Summerside, P.E.I., Moncton, Greenwood, N.S., Goose Bay, Labrador, Ottawa, Vander, Nfld., and nearby Dorval, now is meteorological adviser to the radar weather research group, McGill University. Denison, who holds a master's degree in meteorology, served at Gander, Goose Bay, Dorval, Quebec City and Mont Joli, Que.

Term rain-making can be misleading, said Mr. Denison. "In some isolated cases, we can produce rainfall, but mostly we aim to accentuate an existing rainfall. "Take the Baie Comeau operation. There we had a number of outbreaks that burned some 500 acres of spruce and pine."

"We placed 22 generators in the district, strategically situated to take advantage of air currents. We studied weather data for the last 50 years to form an opinion of what storm tracks could be expected in the region."

CLOUDS TREATED

"As storm clouds moved into the area, coils snaked in silver oxide was fed into fog-like funnels at the generators, resulting in what could be called a colorless dust plume rising to the storm clouds."

"This dust—many millions of particles—provided nuclei on which snow crystals formed, turning to rain as they fell."

"Any kind of dust particles has the same effect to some extent, but countless experiments have shown silver oxide to be the most efficient operating at 20 degrees higher temperatures than other types."

"During one rainfall near Baie Comeau—the first in 2 1/2 months—there was a fall of 1.3 inches in the target district, compared with .25 in the neighboring areas. There's no doubt in our minds that the seeding accounted for most of this extra rain—probably all of it."

"But we couldn't have made rain fall if the storm hadn't come. We can't make clouds in the sky the way we made the breath cloud in the deep freeze."

90-DAY FORECAST

Employed in the fire-fighting by the Laurentian Forest Protective Association Limited, Denison and Power started the job in May, providing a 90-day weather forecast. "Sharpening up" the long-range forecast as time went on, the firm eventually was providing daily and even hourly reports, enabling the fire-fighters to deploy efficiently.

clients with data he doesn't need." Weather engineering—which has numerous other tasks as well as "weather modification"—subscribes to the government meteorological service, receiving detailed information from around the globe. Weather information is normally exchanged freely among governments, even through the iron curtain.

Denison said his firm, affiliated with Dr. Irving P. Krick, Meteorological Consultant, Inc., Denver, Colo., and Water Resources Development Corp., Denver, is the only one of its kind in Canada although there are some 30 in the U.S.

DISCOVERED IN 1947

Power said the theory of cloud seeding was discovered in 1947 by Vincent J. Schaefer of Schenectady, N.Y., a scientist conducting aircraft-experiments for the U.S. government. Cloud seeding first was done by aircraft, an inefficient system since planes had difficulty operating in suitable weather and also were limited in scope.

Clients of weather engineering vary widely in their needs, including a soft drink firm which wants to be forewarned of a heat spell, and an oil company equally interested in cold weather. Both must arrange for sudden distribution problems. A can manufacturer wants to know if crops will be good and canneries thus busy. A lawyer, suing the City of Montreal, called on the firm for evidence that a certain section of street was shaded—and icy—when his client fell and was injured.

Great strides had been made in the United States, where President Eisenhower appointed an advisory committee on weather modification years ago. Hydro-electric facilities in dry regions—including Spain—had been assisted. Experiments in controlling hail and lightning storms had been started in the Pacific northeast—experiments of much interest in Canada's wheat provinces.

"Weather modification is the biggest research field in the world today—even bigger than power from atomic energy," said Denison. "You can't make crops grow with atomic power."

Paper Work Jungles

(Ottawa Journal)

One of the arresting things to come out of the Hoover Commission which has been investigating the operations, processes and cost of government in Washington, is what it says about "paper work". In brief, it is that an excessive use of paper work, forms, reports, memos, directives, is not only stifling and strangling government but is wasting time, money and tempers.

And this statement by the Hoover Commission is not merely an opinion; actual experiments in simplification in the case of a number of departments produced not only greater efficiency but savings of millions of dollars.

One is made to wonder what would happen if any inquiry into paper work such as that by the Hoover Commission in Washington were carried out in Ottawa. Indeed it is a challenging speculation as to what would result if serious efforts were made to examine the resulting in loss of time, money and tempers — of unnecessary paper work in private business.

For it does seem to be true that the modern passion for writing memos — what somebody has called the "jungle of paper work" — has grown into a sort of monster of both government and business.

One of Canada's defence ministers said to us at the height of World War II: "Half my time seems to be taken up in reading words on paper, I ask for something to be put on one sheet of paper; instead I am brought a file. Long memos, endless reports, suggested directives, forms — by the end of the day they leave me exhausted."

Underground Defences

(Oshawa Times-Gazette)

Russia, Sweden and Great Britain, the only three European nations so far to give any attention to defense against atomic bomb attacks, are going underground. The three nations have created what are in effect cities beneath the earth.

These underground communities contain hospitals, shops, recreation centers, in some cases workrooms, assembly halls and even theaters. Some have bakeries, modern hotel accommodations and hangars for aircraft. There are, in addition, arsenals, offices for military and civil officials and even jails.

The Swedes, further advanced than any European nation in civil defense, have constructed enormous caverns of underground installations for civil and military defense in case of war. Russia, so far as is known, is concerned chiefly with protection for its air bases, although underground naval installations are reported to have been dug beneath Russian ports on the Baltic. Allied air intelligence services have been informed of a chain of underground airfields which have either been built or are under construction along the enormous Russian frontier. So far as is known, the only protection against atomic attack for civilians has been constructed below a suburb of Moscow for members of the Russian government and their families.

Toward the end of World War II, the British opened in London what was then the world's largest air shelter — a section of partly finished subway line in South London. It had accommodation for tens of thousands of persons and was dug deep in the London clay. It is understood in the last few years the shelter has been developed for emergency purposes and that it will be able to accommodate nearly 30,000 persons in the air attack.

The Chislehurst caves in Kent, southeast of London, used by hundreds of families in the last war attacks, are also reported to have been surveyed as possible shelters for larger numbers in another war. The headquarters of the first command of the Royal Air Force — from where the battle of Britain was directed and where Gen. Eisenhower presided at many war councils in the years he commanded the allied forces from England — has been enlarged and has become what is said to be the finest underground air headquarters in western Europe. Underground installations for the British navy have been completed at Portsmouth and Chatham.

But the most complicated, the most curious and the most secret of all underground installations for use in future wars is in the heart of central London, a few minutes' walk from Buckingham palace. It faces the Mall, the broad royal thoroughfare which runs from Trafalgar square to the palace.

It was called Fort Churchill in the last years of World War II, when it was still under construction. This blockhouse, built of steel and faced with blocks of stone, was created on order of Winston Churchill when he was wartime prime minister, and included many specifications designed by him.

Most of this formidable fort is underground. It has passages leading to various government cellars in Whitehall and secret passages for sorties and escapes. It also has what has been described as the most complete installation for naval control in the world.

book-besetting not only governments and defence organizations (Field Marshal Montgomery once denounced it) but business and industry as well, making futile work for people who could use such time more usefully. Somebody once wrote of "government by filing systems". They could write just as relevantly of business by memos.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

Plenty of water and salt — unless you have a condition that makes your doctor advise against it — that is the secret for beating the heat and humidity which crumples many of us during these hot summer days.

If you're young and healthy, you probably can withstand just about any climatic heat you're likely to encounter, providing you take adequate amounts of water and salt. If you're older, this is even more important.

HOT SUN RAYS

Those hot rays from the sun can cause sunburn all right, but they will not cause heat stroke if heat is dissipated properly from your body.

Of course, you should avoid overexposure to the sun. And you must avoid overexertion, too. Don't become unduly fatigued. You can drink alcohol, if you normally do, but be sure to take it in moderation.

LIGHT CLOTHING

Light, loose clothing is advisable and large, light-colored hats probably will help keep your head cool. Cold baths and swimming in cool water, naturally, will also cool you.

But most important of all, you must offset your fluid and salt loss. You have millions of perspiration glands. Through these and your kidneys, you lose about three quarts of water daily. You must immediately and continuously replace this loss.

On extremely hot days, you may need to drink eight glasses of fluids for comfort. A man doing hard, physical work may consume more.

Probably, the best way to make sure you get enough water is by a sort of "force feeding" method. Set up a drinking schedule and drink a glass of water at regular intervals whether or not you are thirsty.

Increased loss of salt through sweating can cause a severe reaction. In a few cases, it might even be fatal. To counteract this loss, you should eat your foods abundantly. If you can't get enough salt that way, you'll probably have to take salt tablets.

Many business offices and factories keep them on hand near the drinking fountains. In very hot weather you might for comfort need a daily ration as high as three-quarters of an ounce of salt. Don't try any self-imposed low sodium diets during the hot weather.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

W. M.: What causes noises in the head?

Answer: Buzzing and ringing in the ears may be due to a number of causes, such as anemia, kidney disease, accumulation of wax in the ear, as well as an infection in the tube connecting the ear with the mouth.

It would be advisable to have a physical examination made to determine the cause.

The Poet's Corner

LANDLOCKED SAILOR My shining ploughshare turns the crumbling waves Of fertile soil as clean as prow and keel Divide the white-capped acres of the sea. The hungry thrushes follow in my wake Like petals in ships' furrows, and they gleam Their early harvest long before my seeds Have gained an anchorage in the tideless loam.

The kilder's chantey keeps my team and minor rhythms swivel From tinkling harness gear and clevis pin. Until we come about, close-hauled, and lay Our course upon the backward tack again.

I toil in tune with sun and wind and loud and loud Upon a wider deck that bo'suns know, And from my lookout near a mast-head high pine I sight my mate and her tow-headed crew. They hail me from our cabin door and I Content with cargoes from the roof-filled earth, Almost in fancy dream I can forget The ocean meadows stretching wide and free.

—Russell Pettis Askue In "Wings"

FINED FOR DELIVERY

GLOUCESTER, England (AP)—A husband who delivered his wife's child was fined \$3 Thursday for violating the Midwives Act. William Bingham, the husband said he had delivered a child successfully before and saw no reason why he shouldn't do it again. The prosecutor told the court that two weeks ago he had delivered the child and had the Midwives Act forbids males from delivering children, unless under direction of a qualified medical practitioner.

STORM FRIGHTENS ESKIMOS

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP)—It wasn't the heat so much as the lightning and thunder that both-ered Eskimos during this week's hot spell in the north country. The heat brought the rare phenomena of lightning and thunder to the Arctic regions. Many of the Eskimos were reported to have been frightened, as some saw the flashes and heard the thunder for the first time in their lives.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A Memphis, Tenn., wife fed her husband canned dog food by mistake, and then kept on doing so because he liked it. He may bite the hand that feeds him, if he ever finds out. —Toronto Star.

Coffee made from ground coffee beans contains almost twice as much caffeine as the regular "instant" coffee, according to the Journal of the American Medical Association. Note to office staffs: Be sure you drink the instant variety in that morning coffee break. Otherwise it may keep you awake all day; might even make you energetic on the company's time. —Windsor Daily Star.

The 19-year-old Duke of Kent denies that his cousin the Queen has ordered an army driving instructor to accompany him whenever he drives a car. This doesn't mean that the Queen shouldn't. The rumor that she had probably began because well-meaning busy-bodies thought she should. But no youth going on to 20 wants a cousin interfering with his driving independence, not even when the cousin is Her Majesty. —Sydney Post-Record.

That congress has authorized ten million dollars for continuing research in the conversion of sea water into fresh may not strike many as particularly significant news. But this is a line of endeavor that probably holds as much promise for mankind as any scientific advance of the past. With mechanization, the world food supply has managed to keep a jump ahead of the tremendous population increase in most areas. But the supply of usable arable land is gone, and marginal land is running out. Imagine the transformation of the American southwest if millions of tons of converted sea water could be channelled in from the Pacific for irrigation. Vast stretches of rich soil the world over lack only water to turn them into gardens. —Kansas City Star.

The buying spree in which the Britons have been indulging for some time has evidently become too rampant for the good of the country. So the chancellor of the exchequer has applied a fairly strong curb to the practice in order to offset inflation and get more British-made goods into the export markets particularly in the dollar countries if possible. Chancellor Butler is not, however, as popular a figure in the minds of many Britons today as when he brought down a budget with tax reductions three months ago. His announcement in the House of Commons on Monday that henceforth down payments on installment buying would be more than doubled — hoisted from 15 to 33 1/3 per cent of the purchase price — has evoked a storm of protest. There appears no doubt as to the urgency of need for Mr. Butler's edict, not only in placing a check valve on installment purchases but on other phases of the economy as well. —Moncton Transcript.

The annual Great Peace has settled over Calgary, the bleak acres of the exhibition grounds are left to the gulls, and mildly-be-mused citizens are renewing their acquaintance with their offices and their jobs. White hats are once more reasonably conspicuous, the rest of the gaudy finery has been locked away for another year, and Calgary is sighing, with a weary, expansive sigh, like a large balloon from which half the air has suddenly been released. A Gatling gun turned loose down Foothills avenue would do but a medium of damage today, whereas last week the slaughter would have been appalling. —Calgary Herald.

Do you remember your first summer camping trip? The thrill of sleeping outdoors, even if it was in your own backyard? Then the others that followed until, perhaps, you were lucky enough to attend a Boy Scout camp. There were Bill and Joe and Skinny, and the friendships you formed somehow have stayed with you all your life. Even today you wish that you could do it all over again. Multiply that several thousandfold and you will begin to comprehend the vast treat in store for some ten thousand boys from fifty-five nations of the world who will assemble this August for the eighth world Boy Scout jamboree at Niagara-on-the-Lake, near Niagara Falls. —Telegraph-Journal.

It sometimes is difficult to think of a comedian like Groucho Marx ever settling down to be serious. His business is to make people laugh, and rarely does he appear in public in serious mood. Consequently it is not easy to discern whether he had tongue-in-cheek when he answered an interviewer as to why he didn't write a book. His answer in part, said: "If I wrote a book I'd have to think. That's the hardest work there is. I don't think for more than 10 minutes out of every 24 hours. Hardly anybody does these days. People will go to great extremes not to think." The paragraph is typical of the flippancy style for which Groucho Marx is noted, yet there does seem to be a note of seriousness underlying his remark. Many people are reluctant to think, and are prone to evade mental efforts as much as possible. —Evening Tribune.

The Age Old Story

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him; he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and will set thee for a covenant of the people for a light of the Gentiles; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

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