The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Federation Brief

In the brief presented to the Legislature yesterday by the Federation of Agriculture it was noted that this was the nineteenth occasion in which an annual presentation of this kind had been made. From the start, this practice has paid off in better understanding between our farm groups represented in the Federation, and our lawmakers elected to conduct the Province's business in the Legislature. Occasionally the Federation recommendations have given rise to sharp controversy, but on the whole they have been presented with such logic and moderation that they have received the commendation of members on both sides of the House.

Successive governments have adopted various proposals which the Federation has brought to their attention in this way. In all cases, we believe, the proposals have been given careful consideration, as coming from a body best qualified to speak in the interests of our major industry. We have no doubt that the attention given to yesterday's brief will prove no exception. In its analysis of the problems facing our farming community, and in its constructive suggestions for improvement, it is one of the most important briefs ever presented to the House, and it would challenge attention in any case, regardless of its origin.

Chiefly the brief dealt with the financial position of our farmers, with marketing problems, potato problems, and cattle production. As a corollary to the farmer's financial problems attention was directed to the need of providing adequate capital for the operation and development of economic farm units. Long term credit arrangements, the appointment of a commission to study Island marketing with a view to giving the farmer more bargaining power, and the elimination of "carpet bagging" methods in handling potato exports, were among the policies suggested. In this connection it was emphasized that unless a fresh and adequate infusion of capital is made available, many good farm units will go out of operation in the next few years.

Red China Threatens

One of the important things too often overlooked in the American effort to keep Red China out of the United Nations, and the Russian attempts to have it included, is the fact that nobody knows whether Peking wants to accept a seat or not. As matters stand today the Communist Chinese, outspokenly dedicated to the overthrow of capitalism, are operating free of all restraint from either free world or Communist direction. Communism, as practiced by the Chinese, has little resemblance to the Communism now being preached and practiced by Premier Khrushchev.

In Russia the people, grown weary of too many years of austerity, are seeking some of the rewards they have been promised since they were told to arise and free themselves of their chains. There is a feeling that the chains are still clanking. The younger generation, who have grown up without knowing the slavery of the czars, are not taking kindly to sparse helpings of the good things of life as did their seniors.

China, still close to the fundamentalist level of Communism, is not yet ready to give its people both guns and butter. Leaders there operate on the policy that if they make enough guns it will not be necessary to spend time making butter. This can be taken from the capitalists with the guns.

What is worrying students of the world situation is the known fact that atomic and hydrogen bombs are no longer secret. Scientists know how they are constructed. Materials are available to every nation. China has the scientific know-how to construct these bombs. It also has the desire. Unlike America and Russia it mouths no platitudes that any military power it develops is to maintain peace. Chinese Reds preach the theory that the only way Communism and capitalism can co-exist is to slaughter the capitalists.

Knowing these things the United States is showing an apparent unawareness of the danger. As one American newspaper comments editorially: "This country had better begin learning to think in terms of Red China's threat just as it has learned to recognize the Soviet threat. And to understand what we're up against requires a far better knowledge of Red China than we have been permitted to have. The American attitude has been largely that of the ostrich—head in the sand. We'd better get ourselves into a position to judge what's coming."

When, and if, Red China is admitted to the United Nations the world will keep right on turning. What could conceivably happen is that the present two-power tug-of-war between Washington and Moscow could spread out into a three-way fight with the Peking Reds who have no use at all for United States capitalism and are growing disillusioned with Communism as practised by Russia. The Western nations appear to have no plan to meet such a contingency, as they prepare now to discuss disarmament at a world conference at which Red China is excluded.

Education Week

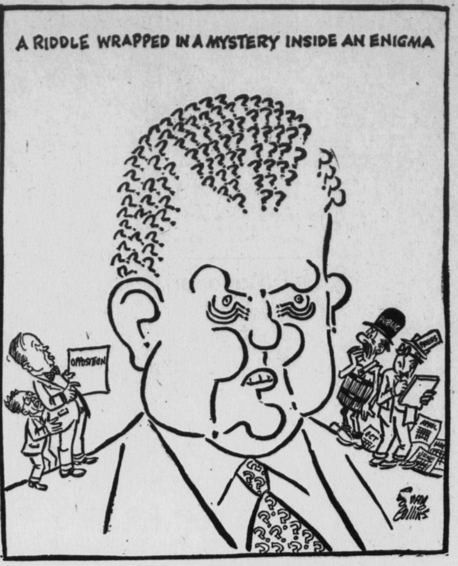
Appropriately, this year's announcement for Education Week is based on a quotation from Sir Richard Livingstone: "Men must learn to earn a living, to be good members of a society, to understand the meaning of the phrase 'the good life'; and education must help them to achieve these three ends." In a democratic society it becomes increasingly apparent that education, in a very real sense, is the measure of a nation.

Public interest in education is not, of course, a one-week affair only. But the marking of one week each year as Education Week helps stimulate interest on a national scale, and draws attention to the increasing significance of education in today's world and to the fact that, while its administration in Canada is a provincial concern, its importance is national.

It has long been the contention of the Teachers Federation, and other educational bodies, that Ottawa should assume more responsibility in this matter. Grants to raise the general standards of education throughout Canada have been proposed, but we hear less about them now than we did a few years ago. Why federal responsibility should be recognized in the matter of technical and vocational training, but not in academic studies is something we could never understand. If the quotation given above from Sir Richard Livingstone means anything at all, it means that the three aims of education are equally of national concern. Perhaps we shall hear something on this subject from the Canadian Conference on Education, which is winding up its four-day session today in Montreal.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is pleasing to note that the Federal Government has now arranged to have recipients of war veteran's allowances, aged 70 and over, receive the full amount of the recent $10 increase in old age and blind pensions. Previously it had been the practice to include old age pensions as part of the income subject to the means test under the War Veterans Allowance Act. Now the regulations have been changed to exempt last month's old age pensions increase from the income ceiling, and veterans will be placed, as they should be, on a par with other aged pensioners in benefiting from the higher pension rate. No reference was made in the Ottawa announcement to widows dependent upon government assistance, but it is to be hoped that the new ruling will apply to them as well.



THE ELECTION PICTURE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Mr. Pickersgill's Misquotation Charge

When a politician's tongue runs embarrassingly away from his Party line, he customarily howls in anguish "I was misquoted."

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill, a Liberal M.P. from Newfoundland, was recently reported as urging before a Quebec audience that Canada should have two national flags: one containing the Union Jack and the other not.

Mr. P. had put his foot in his mouth. When he returned to Ottawa he was prompted - perhaps by the strategy planners of the Liberal Party - to amend his unhappy utterance.

"Judging by press and radio reports, I did not express clearly the position I took on the flag," he confessed. But the uniformity of ear-witness reports made it obvious that he had expressed clearly - although perhaps not cleverly - his position.

However Mr. P's amendment continued: "What I was seeking to say was that. . ." Now no newspaper can use a crystal ball to divine what any politician is "seeking" to say; we can only deal with what he actually does say.

DIS-UNION JACK

This column deplored Mr. P's attempt to make the essentially nationwide interest of Canada's flag into a sectional political issue. It likened to the teen-age guilt complex, which hides in the woodshed to smoke, Mr. P's suggestion that we should see at home a national flag excluding the Union Jack, but use a different flag including the Union Jack in other Commonwealth countries.

As part of his tidying-up process, Mr. P. then wrote a letter to the editor of this paper, asserting that my comments "contained a complete misrepresentation of something I was supposed to have said."

That boring exercise contained an amazing phrase: "A misrepresentation of something I was supposed to have said." That double doubt admits the baselessness of his accusation. He may not have intended to say that Canada should have two flags, one with and the other without the Union Jack; but he did. Two flags, just as we have two languages, he clarified.

Let us compare the two versions.

"Mr. Pickersgill recommended," this column wrote, "first, the choice of a flag on which would appear the Union Jack, to represent Canada in Britain and the other countries of the Commonwealth. Second, he recommended the adoption of a distinctive flag, without any emblem of dependence, to represent Canada across the country and at the United Nations."

NO DIFFERENCE

Mr. Pickersgill's correction (?) was summarised in these words: "When I was asked if that would mean two flags, I said, yes, one distincitive for Canada and one containing the Union Jack for our association in the Commonwealth."

Mr. P's embarrassment is understandable; but not his complaint that he was "misrepresented" by this column. His anguish more likely stems not from my quoting of his words but from my deduction that "dis-Union Jack Pickersgill's suggestion savours of the wood-shed guilt complex."

Probably he expected that I would feel properly chastened and corrected by his letter appearing in print in so many papers carrying this "Ottawa Report." But in my opinion such frequent and generally groundless criticism of the responsible press by embarrassed politicians of all parties calls for a firm rebuttal by those attacked. There are occasions of deliberate misquotation and misrepresentation no doubt; but as the sentences quoted above show, this column did correctly report the proposal for two national flags of Canada, one including and the other excluding the Union Jack.

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.

CONTRAST IN SPEAKERS

Sir, — On the evening Tuesday, Feb. 27, there appeared on the TV program "Inquiry," David Walker, Minister of Public Works in the Diefenbaker Government, together with several newspaper men. If the Diefenbaker Government wishes to meet defeat at the very next election then I would suggest he be placed on TV upon every occasion possible.

After listening to Mr. Walker endeavoring to monopolize the entire time of the program, with his recital of all the good works of Tory Government at Ottawa, together with his refusal to accept the professed non-political questioning of Michael Barkway, his rude mannerisms, his pronounced egotistical attitude toward questions asked, his self-righteousness and his apparent desire to belittle others, his claim of one hundred per cent right in all undertakings, every run a home run with no errors and the Canadian public lovingly awaiting the opportunity to endorse every action of the Dief Government, really brought to mind similar action but never placed upon the TV screen of the late St. Laurent Government of a few years back, and, we all remember what happened to that group.

Recently we had another Minister, one who visited us in person, and to whom we listened with interest; a quiet but forceful speaker. I refer to Howard Green, Minister of External Affairs, in the Diefenbaker Government, who through his kindly manner, his lack of overstatement, his sympathetic attitude toward others, warms the heart of opponents toward him, his subject and, possibly toward his party.

Why we should not have had more than two hundred present at the Community Centre to listen to Green is beyond me. Our Liberal friends are gloating over the scant attendance at the Green meeting but, they should get their own house in order, or have they learned that severe lesson handed to them in '57 and '58?

According to those within the Liberal ranks, and they should know, all is not well with their group, split into several factions each at war with the other and all at war with the hierarchy and their lack of action in Queens, where selection committees have been known to approach prominent Tories asking that they offer for nomination in behalf of the Liberal party.

I am, Sir, etc.,
PUZZLED.

Bedford, P.E.I.

A Hunt For Mermaids

National Geographic Society

Reports of gorgeous red-haired mermaids frolicking in the Irish Sea sparked a mermaid hunt, not long ago, off the British Isle of Man. Though no fish-tailed maidens were found, the quest attested to the appeal and vitality of this ancient sea story.

Today, no one really believes in the existence of mermaids, but once they were widely accepted, albeit exotic, members of marine fauna. Mermaids were regularly "sighted" by explorers, sailors, and travelers from chilly Newfoundland to palm-studded tropic isles.

Christopher Columbus and Henry Hudson gave detailed reports of their encounters with mermaids, and in 1560 seven such creatures were reported netted off the coast of Ceylon. A physician dissected the seven, the story goes, and said they were exactly like humans.

REAL AS SHRIMPS

By the 17th century mermaids were as firmly established in the public mind as shrimps. Natives of West Africa were said to be catching and eating mermaids, and the delicate problem arose as to whether this was punishable as cannibalism since the creatures were half human.

In 1723, a Danish Royal Commission confirmed the existence of the creatures when members reported seeing a merman floating in the sea. They described him as having deep-set eyes and a long black beard.

Throughout the Age of Reason mermaids were as controversial as today's monster, Abominable Snowman, and flying saucers. Many tales obviously resulted from the higher flights of alcoholic fancy, but there were ingenious frauds.

An eccentric English vicar impersonated a mermaid by donning a long wig of plaited seaweed and wrapping his legs in oilskins. Under a full moon, he sat on a rock off the Cornish village of Bude, and with mirror in hand sang to awed townspeople. After several performances, the vicar grew hoarse and weary, sang a final "God Save the King" and plunged into the sea, leaving Bude without its mermaid.

In the 1870's, stuffed mermaids could be examined in London coffee houses. Japanese fishermen made these creatures by stitching the top part of a monkey to the tail of a fish. P. T. Barnum featured such a fake in his "Greatest Show on Earth."

ORIGIN OF MERMAIDS

The femme fatale, which in legend lures men to their destruction, is the descendant of early sea gods. The Babylonians of the 3rd century B.C. worshipped Oannes, the fish-tailed Lord of the Waters. The Syrians built a temple to their sea goddess, Atargatis, and would not eat fish without a priest's approval. Fish-tailed divinities appear in early Greek vase paintings and were worshipped in India.

Naturalists believe that sea-swimming mammals such as the manatee, dugong, and seal have been frequently mistaken for mermaids when seen from a distance, and thus keep the legend alive. Impressionable sailors, after a long and lonely voyage, could conceivably mistake the humanlike face and mobile flippers of a seal for the beauteous and beguiling maiden of the sea.

The Age Old Story

The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season.

WIDELY TRAVELLED

During 1960 Governor-General and Mme. Vanier entertained more than 11,500 people and travelled 15,600 miles on official visits.

Coughing Said Not Always Bad

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

COUGHING may be good or bad and when it is good there is no sense in using cough medicine. It is a protective reflex that keeps the respiratory tract free of accumulated secretions, dust, and other minute particles. The usual stimulation comes from infection or from chemical or mechanical irritation of the lining membrane.

Identifying and removing the cause of coughing is more logical than suppressing it. The remedy may be simple, such as the cessation of smoking. Air pollution also is a culprit but is more difficult to avoid, especially in large cities.

Others are benefited by adding moisture to the air in the office or apartment via a humidifier. Steam heat is a notorious offender along this line. Victims of chronic bronchitis must experiment with the temperature of the room as well as the humidity. Many cough less when the bedroom is warmer.

Those who cough up large amounts of sputum may be able to sleep longer if, before turning in for the night, they lie for a few minutes with the head and chest lower than the rest of the body. The purulent sputum escapes more easily when the forces of gravity are added to those of coughing. Drugs that dilute the bronchi and liquefy the sputum also help to bring up the purulent material. The antibiotics are used from time to time to eliminate infection.

Coughing is desirable in these cases and should not be inhibited unless it is excessive, interfers with sleep, or adds to the irritation.

There are many excellent cough mixtures but the essential ingredient must be a drug that suppresses cough. Codeine is the old reliable but newer synthetic nonnarcotic products are available. Tablets and lozenges that moisten or anesthetize the back of the throat also help deaden the cough reflex.

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

SCALP CYST

G. P. writes: I have had a sebaceous cyst on my scalp for years. It became abscessed and the doctor opened and drained it. Now it has grown back again. Is these no cure for this nuisance?

REPLY

Yes — surgery. It is a simple operation that is done under a local anesthetic. Hospitalization is not necessary and the only disagreeable feature is the wearing of a bandage for a week or 10 days. The operation should be done after the infection subsides.

ANNUAL CHECKUPS

Mrs. V. writes: How often do men and women need checkups?

REPLY

Annually, after age 50, and preferably during the birth month because this occasion serves as a good reminder. The examination need not be made so often in younger persons. Every two to six years is often enough, depending upon the physicial condition and type of work. Many women consult a gynecologist every year from age 35 on.

CYST PAIN

J. B. writes: Will heat relieve the pain of pilonidal cyst?

REPLY

Pain is relieved temporarily by lancing the infected cyst, to allow pus to escape. Permanent relief is obtained by complete removal, preferably after the infection has subsided.

TONGUE CRAMPS

J. K. writes: From time to time I get pain of the tongue muscles which feels like cramping. Have you ever heard of anything like this?

REPLY

Yes. Cramping can occur in any muscle, including those of the tongue.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT— Uncertainty and fear lead to weariness.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Mar. 7, 1937)

Business pertaining to the coming season's work, especially with regard to a proposed new schedule of wages, was discussed at the regular monthly meeting of the Charlottetown Carpenters Union, last night. Mr. Harold Bernard, newly elected president of the organization, presided.

At a meeting of the directorate of Charles Gurd and Co., (Maritime) Ltd., held Monday in Saint John, N.B., C. Grant Gregory was appointed General Manager by unanimous vote of the board. Mr. Gregory's appointment will be good news, and his return with Mrs. Gregory to his native city.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Mar. 7, 1952)

The weekly luncheon meeting of the Kiwanis Club was held in the Blue Room of the Old Spain. Bob Snazelle was chairman and the booster prize was won by "Toots" Richard. The meeting was addressed by Col. K. S. Rogers. His topic was "The development of radio," its growth and development from pioneering days to the present system.

The members of the choir of St. Paul's church, with their wives and husbands, gave a miscellaneous shower last evening after choir practice, for Mr. and Mrs. Royston F. Mugford, whose marriage took place recently.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Mother," said little Tobey, "today our teacher asked me whether or not I had any little brothers or sisters, and I told her I was an only child." "And what did she say?" asked his mother. "She said, 'Thank goodness!' "—Montreal Star.

The House of Commons seems to find some amusement in the emergence of Mr. H. W. Herridge, new House leader of the New Democratic Party, as the group's spokesman on agricultural matters. It can't all be so strange to Mr. Herridge, a forest farmer. More remarkable was the chore in the same field undertaken in the present Parliament by Mr. Paul Martin for the Liberals.—Ottawa Citizen.

Why all the effort to save the whooping crane from extinction? The dodo has been extinct for years, and it isn't complaining. — Galt Reporter.

Many people looking for a success formula have overlooked the most successful formula of all— WORK.— St. Catharines Standard.

Customer (in barber's shop): "Cut all three short." "What three?" "The beard, the hair and the conversation."— Galt Reporter.

Someone's bound to mistake Prime Minister Diefenbaker's "national power grid" proposal for a new Canadian football league.—Ottawa Journal.

Trouble On The Rails

Fredericton Gleaner

Canada's railways are again threatened with crippling strikes. Negotiations between the major rail lines and their non-operating employees have collapsed and a dispute between enginemen and management remains unsettled.

There is an air of unreality about this whole situation. Railroading is a sick industry in Canada. The railroads are losing money. They are retiring rapidly from their traditional passenger business while their competitors—airlines, buses and trucks— are making sensational gains.

Railroading is an industry with its back to the wall, fighting for its very life. This is no time for the railways and their workers to indulge in crippling internal disputes.

Particularly unrealistic is the demand of the non-operating unions for a "job freeze," a guarantee that there will be no reduction of the number of jobs in certain categories of railway employment. This is a most unreasonable demand upon any enterprise. Changes occur and companies must keep up with them if they are to stay solvent. People cannot be paid for jobs that no longer exist. What the unions are demanding is recognition and approval of the dangerous practice of "featherbedding."

But the rails and the unions cannot see eye to eye. The next step is go before a conciliation board. If the past is any criterion, one side will accept the board's findings, the other side will not. Then will come the strike bogey with the whole matter thrust again into the lap of the Federal Government. It looks like the mixture as before.

He Doesn't Fade Away

Montreal Star

"I'm out of business now and can do what I like and say what I like, and I rather enjoy it."

So spake Field Marshal the Viscount Montgomery of Alamein in May, 1960, during one of his frequent Canadian visits.

Unfortunately, not everyone else rather enjoys the Field Marshal's saying what he likes. In fact he has an extraordinary faculty for irritation.

On that occasion in 1960 he was on his way to Communist China, where he was to proclaim that the regime was "quite preferable" to the pre-Communist Chiang Kai - shek government, and that "I believe there should be one China, not two, and that China is the one which has its government in Peking."

He was back in China again last October as the personal guest of Mao Tse - tung ("a great guy") and reported solemnly that he had not seen a single case of malnutrition.

Over the last couple of years the Field Marshal has delivered himself, loudly and publicly, of a number of other opinions. Among them: NATO outdated. Unification of Germany: against it. The Berlin bases in Europe: should be withdrawn.

His latest proclamation on the subject of other people's business came from Durban, South Africa: "If the black people north of this country unite— if they find a leader and threaten the whites of South Africa—then I shall draw my sword and come and help you myself." To which he added: "No division between the whites here is permissible.

Your children must all go to school together. You must be bilingual."

This is not calculated to foster love for Britain either in the new nations of Africa or among both English - speaking and Afrikaner people in South Africa, any more than his remarks about China promoted goodwill in the United States.

There would, we suspect, be a sigh of relief in the Western countries if Viscount Montgomery did what most other British field marshals do —slowly fade away, dozing in their seats in the House of Lords, keeping quiet on matters removed from the science of war.

The Poets Corner

SNOW OF MARCH

Wet snow of March lies heavy
on the limbs
Of monarch oaks. The squirrel's
granary,
Though almost empty, whitely
overbrims;
He scoops and scolds and
scoops to dig it free.
The huddled starlings, taken by
surprise,
Sit brooding in the branches.
Overhead,
The squirrel draws a nut from
his supplies,
And draws and nibbles, nibbles
and is fed.
Still, it is March: his hoard is
nearly gone.
Soon, like the waiting grackles,
he must forage.
Does he consider every acorn
drawn
Is one less kernel left in winter storage?
Has he, as they have, some built-in assurance
That snow of March is snow of
brief endurance?

—Victor Howes.
in the Christian Science Monitor.

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Agents Throughout The Province

Science Now Shrinks Piles Without Pain Or Discomfort

Finds Healing Substance That Relieves Pain And Itching As It Shrinks Hemorrhoids

Toronto, Ont. (Special)—For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the ability to shrink hemorrhoids and to relieve pain and itching. Thousands have been relieved with this inexpensive substance right in the privacy of their own home without any discomfort or inconvenience.

In one hemorrhoid case after another, "very striking improvement" was reported and verified by doctors' observations.

Pain was promptly relieved. And while gently relieving pain, actual reduction or retraction (shrinking) took place.

And most amazing of all—this improvement was maintained in cases where doctors' observations were continued over a period of many months!

In fact, results were so thorough that sufferers were able to make such statements as "Piles have ceased to be a problem!" And among these sufferers were a very wide variety of hemorrhoid conditions, some of even 10 to 20 years' standing.

All this, without the use of narcotics, anesthetics or astringents of any kind. The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne) — the discovery of a famous scientific institute. Already, Bio-Dyne is in wide use for healing injured tissue on all parts of the body.

This new healing substance is offered in *suppository or ointment* form called *Preparation H*. Ask for individually sealed convenient Preparation H Suppositories or Preparation H ointment with special applicator. Preparation H is sold at all drug stores. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.