The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Published every week day morning (except Sunday and statutory holidays) at 165 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd. Branch offices at Summerside, Montague, Alberton and Souris.

Represented nationally by Thomson Newspapers Advertising Services, Toronto, 425 University Ave. Empire 3-8894; Montreal, 640 Cathcart Street University 6-5942; Western Office, 1030 West Georgia Street, Vancouver (MA 7-7321).

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Not over 35c per week by carrier.

$12.00 a year by mail or rural routes and areas not serviced by carrier.

$15.00 a year elf Island and U.K. $20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.

Not over 7c single copy.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

PAGE 4 THURSDAY, SEPT. 10, 1964.

Welcome Visitations

The Canadian Area Commonwealth Parliamentary Association concludes its four-day convention here this afternoon. The delegates were enabled to visit many points of interest throughout the province, meet many of our people, and gain first hand information about our activities and problems. By all reports, this first conference of its kind to be held in the Cradle of Confederation has proved enjoyable as well as profitable, and it is to be hoped the participants from what we Maritimers call the outlying parts of the country will come and visit us again.

It was particularly pleasing to have the Association members with us for the special ceremony yesterday, at which the Centennial Fountain, a generous gift from the British Government to the Fathers of Confederation Memorial, was officially presented by His Excellency the High Commissioner to Canada, Sir Henry Lintott.

Another gathering here this week is of more than usual interest. This is the first meeting ever to be held outside Montreal of the national executive, advisory board and executive council of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities. The conference is a reminder—if reminder should be necessary—of the importance of civic affairs in the political life of the country.

We imagine this to be a concept of quite recent origin. But it is now more than a century ago that De Tocqueville, celebrated French statesman and historian, made this reflection on the subject:

"A nation can establish a system of free government, but without municipal institutions it has not the 'spirit of liberty'. Strong intermediate and local institutions are democratic necessities. They encourage men and women to take an active part in the business of government; and while there may be limitations on local freedom, especially when the economy works on a narrow margin, it is healthy to have a division of power between the centre and the locality. The ensuing tensions and accommodations are in themselves productive of life and vigor."

That couldn't have been better expressed today, as a commentary on the significance of the meeting of the heads of some 50 municipal governments in Charlottetown on this occasion.

Frightening Portent

The new United Nations Demographic Yearbook has just been issued. It hasn't made the headlines but it contains a statement that should be sending cold shivers down the backs of statesmen everywhere. This is to the effect that the world population is now increasing at the rate of nearly 63 million a year.

What has been added in a year is about the equivalent of the populations of France, plus the Netherlands, plus Norway. But the greatest growth is not in these comparatively well-to-do countries; it is taking place in areas that can't adequately support the people they now have.

The grim consequences already are apparent, and the prospects are even more threatening. At the moment, India is in desperate need of food and is appealing for further aid from the "have" countries. Within a few years other overpopulated lands will be in a similar predicament.

Speaking on this subject the other day, Dr. Raymond Ewell, vice-chancellor for research at the State University of New York, warned that "the greatest disaster in the history of the world is just around the corner." If populations continue to explode, he said, famine will strike India, Pakistan and China in the early 1970s, then spread to Indonesia, Iran, Turkey and Egypt, and by 1980 reach most of the other countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The United States, with food in abundance, has an annual population growth of 1.6 per cent. Thriving Europe's rate is even lower—.9 per cent. But Central America has 2.9 per cent. Individual countries outdo the averages. Costa Rica, for instance, has a 4.3 per cent annual rate of increase and the Dominican Republic 2.6 per cent.

The stark fact is that it has taken up to 200,000 years for the world's population to reach its present level. But unless the growth is checked, population will nearly DOUBLE in the next 35 years.

This news, as the New York Times well says, means more in the long run than elections, economic trends, catastrophies and international crises—and is, in fact, related to all of these. What gives awesome proportions to the problem is that these millions of new lives are each as potentially valuable to society, each as entitled to protection and opportunity as any that have preceded them. Surely some means could be found of getting the world nations together in a sober assessment of the situation.

Still In The Dark

Could the Northumberland Strait causeway be built by a private firm in from three to four years at a cost that would pay for itself in 20 years, as has been rumored? We still don't know, but the responsible minister at Ottawa now says that a "proposal" has been received, though he is not in a position at present to make any reply to it.

Is it true, as rumored, that only highway traffic is being provided for in the plans now being considered? Again, after weeks of silence, the responsible minister says no decision has been made on this point.

These answers leave us as much in the dark as ever about the Government's intentions in the matter. Meanwhile, the CNR ferry service is back on its fall schedule and we are reminded that here too we could do with a little enlightenment on the subject of how adequate this provision will be for the heavy shipping season ahead. How much longer can we rely on the old Prince Edward Island to keep going without a complete and final breakdown?

What of the new ice-breaking ferry, with regard to which it was announced last June that tenders had been called, that construction would begin next year and that the ferry would be in operation by 1967? Has any tender been accepted? There are rumors to the effect that there has been some hitch in this matter as well, but we trust that this is not the case.

What is needed, surely, is a full and frank report on what is going on at Ottawa to remedy our transportation difficulties. Why there should be any need for secrecy in such matters is beyond our comprehension.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Here, according to an Ottawa Journal scribe, is the gist of a remark dropped by an MP over the coffee cups in the Parliamentary Cafeteria the other morning: "Holidays?" "No problem. I just take' em. Many people back home in the constituency think I'm working up here in the House, and the Whip thinks I'm down there working in the constituency."

* * *

Speaking before the special Parliamentary committee on food and drugs recently, Dr. C. A. Morrell, director of the Food and Drug Directorate, made the disturbing statement that "today anyone can purchase raw materials abroad and set up as a manufacturer without having to notify us. We don't know who is in the business. We don't have the personnel to maintain a constant check on newcomers to the industry, and therefore we are hindered in our efforts to enforce the Food and Drug Act."

NOBODY GAINING IN THIS GAME

NEW ZEALAND EXAMPLE

Ombudsman Proves A Doubtful Help

Ottawa Journal

A House of Commons committee has been visited by a real live ombudsman, Sir Guy Powles of New Zealand. He did not draw a large attendance in the West Block committee room.

This is a hint that it is a minority among Canadian MPs which believes that an ombudsman would right every injustice done by big government — and take a load off the backs of elected representatives.

Sir Guy did not take long to make clear that a New Zealand ombudsman is not a kind of Scandinavian sea god dashing to the rescue of every innocent caught in the nets of government administration.

He found only about half the complaints made to him worth investigating. Some 20 per cent of those examined had a basis of justification and a grievance was rectified, a departmental procedure modified or other recommendation implemented.

ILLUMINATING

Two years of ombudsmanship in New Zealand had proved that elected members do not pass on most of their problems: they attempt to deal with complaints themselves.

This is illuminating. It suggests that parliamentarians are not just waiting for the opportunity to let George or the Ombudsman do their job.

It is one thing for responsible bodies in Canada such as the Glassco Commission and a party leader such as Mr. Robert Thompson to suggest we have a Canadian parliamentary commissioner of ombudsman stature.

But are MPs at large prepared to abandon tedious but essential tasks of personally reassuring their constituents? An MP who has an injustice righted through intervention with an official or a minister brings gratitude — and votes — to himself. Conversely, the MP who would duck behind the broad shoulders of an Ombudsman appears to be trying to avoid responsibility for the acts of Parliament.

In the Canadian system an MP inquiring into any complaint is not likely to find his way impeded by any official or have any doors slammed by any minister. Further, he had opportunity in committees to cause detailed inquiries into Government actions, often with the assistance of the Auditor General, an officer of Parliament.

The ombudsman sounds like a good idea; we doubt it would be as good as it sounds.

"No Man Is An Island"

Sarnia Observer

While it is sometimes difficult to generalize on such a widespread topic as incivility, there appears to be just cause in recent years for all of us to be judged on our guilt by association.

Common decency, the Golden Rule and plain fairness seem to us to be on the wane across Canada. We are all either too busy with our own little problems or we are fast becoming disinterested in our fellow men with the result that the boors are beginning to outnumber the 'nice guys.'

This is particularly noticeable in the service trades. Gone are the days of the 'Good Morning' smile, the sincere handshake and the genuine and sympathetic 'How are you?' They maybe cliches and anaemic platitudes to many, but we are inclined to believe all that all of us are brothers and that no man is an island.'

A restaurant owner who mistakenly thinks he can shortchange a U.S. tourist by declining to allow him a premium on his dollar, deserves to lose his business. Similarly, the man who cannot manage a smile or keeps a customer waiting unduly for service surely lacks a basic understanding of human nature. Patience can be a magnificent virtue but it also can be strained to the breaking point where it rebels into righteous indignation.

Our American cousins are great believers in hospitality. They have built business, even empires on this intangible, yet vital, aspect of their nature. It may be even true to say that they are the most warm-hearted and extroverted people on earth. Whatever their collective personality they have the right approach when it comes to meeting the public in general. Canada, we feel, has yet to mature in making Americas hospitality. Welcome is a wonderful word but meaningless until it is sincere and offered with a personal touch, a hot cup of coffee, a ready smile and, perhaps, a lasting impression.

Every day we hear of unfortunate incidents that could have been avoided with a little understanding and tolerance. After all, life's too short — and enjoyable — to be spoiled by boors who should know better — and who should be enjoying life too.

Herds, Not Birds

Guelph Mercury

A peaceful revolution is gathering force in Scotland. Protests are sharper over devotion of huge areas to hunting and fishing by the extremely wealthy. The National Farmers' Union, with the slogan of "herds, not birds", demands that enormous tracts of moorland be sprayed to kill off the heather on which the grouse feed, atd then be seeded to hay to sustain livestock. Sir David Robertson, a Conservative MP, contends that Scotland should be developed as a mutton and beef producer on a large scale.

The royal family has 36,000 acres at Balmoral, and leases 11,000 acres more. Yet it is not among the really big land owners. The Duke of Buccleuch, for instance, owns half a million acres. Others, reports the Liberal weekly, New Statesman include the Countess of Seafield with 216,000 acres; the Duke of Sutherland with 200,000; Lord Lovatt of Lovatt's Rangers fame, 190,000; the Duke of Atholl, 120,000; the Marquis of Bute, 117,000; the Duchess of Westminster and family 100,000; Lord Thurso, 100,000; Earl Granville, 60,000; Earl of Cawdor, 55,000. These astronomical figures are possibly difficult to digest. As a yardstick, relate them to a mile square. That's a good-sized farm. It totals 640 acres.

An Almost Merry England

Christian Science Monitor

One poll doesn't make a British political summer, nor do two. But the second swallow is a welcome herald, even if the somber raven still croaks nevermore.

To the Daily Mail's public-opinion sampling which last week showed Britain's Conservatives edging ahead of the Labor Party by just under one percent, add the Daily Express poll which now shows the Conservatives 2.3 percent better off than Labor.

But the Gallup Poll continues to put Labor 6 percent ahead of the Tories.

So the British season wears on, and Prime Minister Douglas-Home is expected to name an October date for the national elections almost any day now.

The August trade figures are not helpful to the Conservative cause. Again the balance runs against Britain. But this is in line with a recent trend and not unexpected. And the balance-of-payments difficulties which arise partly from the trade situation have been more amenable to expert management than they promised to be.

Reports from Britain tend to back up the polls' indication that the Conservatives are gaining. They have had an unforeseable boost from the weather, which is always close to the meteorological center of Britain's mood. The fine summer has given people very little to grumble at during the holidays. Coming on top of the "never had it so good" of the MacMillan era, what may come to be known as "Sir Alec's Summer" is making it harder for British voters to maintain the grumpiness which "outs" usually regard as moral fervor.

Of course the motor roads were jammed, and the baches were crowded. But it is not in the phlegmatic and fair-minded British character to take it out on the government just because that Jones boy trod all over "our Susie's" sand castle.

Whether the present period is a sort of political solstice boding nothing in particular for either side, or a calm before a storm, the polls don't tell. But people are beginning to talk about a possible close election.

A Common Problem

Winnipeg Free Press

One of the more encouraging developments in Commonwealth co-operation in recent years has been in the realm of education. The co-operation here has been especially heartening in a day when Commonwealth interests so often seem to diverge.

But education is a common cause. The education problem is as real in Canada and in Britain as it is in the newest state. The needs in the various parts of the Commonwealth may vary, but there is none that is not confronted with an educational crisis in one form or another.

It was to help meet these crises that the first Commonwealth Education Conference was called five years ago. In the interim much has been achieved. Most notable has been the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan.

The number of students at the university level currently benefiting from this plan is in excess of 500, and the thousandth scholar since the plan's inception will take up his award before the end of this year.

The charge has been made that some students benefiting from the plan have shown a reluctance to return to their country of origin. If this were true of any large number it would, of course, nullify the plan's main purpose.

But as Sir Edward Boyle, the British minister of education pointed out in Ottawa the other day at the third Commonwealth Education Conference, the charge is largely unfounded.

Quoting statistics as they affected students studying in Britain, he cited the fact that 79 per cent had returned to their own countries, with 13 per cent still in Britain with the approval of their own country and the United Kingdom commission. The applications for deferment of four per cent are still being considered, and only three per cent — out of a total of 332 — can be categorized as "staying on without approval."

The concern over his year's conference, however, is less with the scholarship and fellowship plan than with the need for more teachers — especially at the secondary level and in the training of craftsmen and technicians — in the underdeveloped states.

This is a problem that is compounded by the fact that the advanced nations — including Canada — are suffering from teacher shortages of their own, and from the additional fact that in some states teachers who volunteer for service in underdeveloped parts of the Commonwealth lose their seniority rights at home.

It is the present hope that steps can be taken to offset the second of these obsacles, but the first will less easily be overcome.

START NEW MINE

The discovery of a reef containing more than 100,000 tons of payable lead-zinc ore in Auckland province, New Zealand, is leading to the establishment of the first mine of this type there.

JENKINS MOVING & STORAGE

Poor Eating Habits In Aged

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Many elderly people have poor eating habits. I recall an old Florida fishing guide who lived in a one-room shack near the water's edge. He kept on his stove a large black kettle containing fish chowder. From time to time he added water or scraps of fish, including the bones.

This was his daily menu except when treated to sandwiches and other food by fishermen using his boat. The kettle probably never was emptied and undoubtedly held minute pieces of the first fish tossed into it.

It is easy for lonesome oldsters to slide into careless eating habits. They cannot waste anything and leftovers are put in the refrigerator for tomorrow's use. They find it just as easy to cook enough vegetables or soup for eight servings as for one and this means eight meals of the same food. The most economic can of beans may have four helpings — beans for four days.

The trouble with this sketchy kind of eating is that it leads to malnutrition. This encourages weight loss and ill health. This is one reason why some married middle - aged people beg their elderly father or mother to live with them or go to a nursing or convalescent home. They are not trying to get rid of the parents but want to help them eat properly. The owners of these homes usually are aware of the need for a balanced diet and attractive menus.

The food industry has come to the rescue of many oldsters who live alone. TV dinners, for example, are easy to heat and eat. The freezers of most markets offer a large variety of prepared foods, including delicacies. I understand that some elderly persons eat dog and cat foods.

It would be nice to dine out four times a week but many oldsters cannot afford the luxury. Not every community is equipped with the meaus on wheels program. Supplementary vitamins and minerals are of value when the menus are lopsided, but there is no substitute for a balanced diet.

NOSE PULLING

Mrs. A. E. Writes: For several years my 18 - year - old son has had the habit of pulling his nose. It has become soft and out of shape. Could this be rectified without plastic surgery?

REPLY

No, and any benefits from plastic surgery will be temporary unless this boy stops pulling his nose.

FEELS THE PULSE

E. A. E. writes: Can a deaf physician get an accurate blood pressure recording?

REPLY

He can obtain the systolic reading by pumping up the cuff and feeling for the pulse. The pressure falls. He cannot get the diastolic pressure.

LUNG DISEASE

S. C. writes: What are the reasons for removal of a lung?

REPLY

Cancer, tuberculosis, bronchiectasis, and emphysema. Best results are obtained when the disease is confined to one or two lobes of a lung.

ARTHRITIS VERTEBRAS

A. K. writes: Could arthritis cause a pinched nerve in the neck?

REPLY

Yes, when the vertebras of the neck are involved and pinch the nerves of the brachial plexes.

COLD SURGERY

U.B writes: What is cryocautery (for keloids)?

REPLY

This is a method of destroying tissue by freezing. Extreme cold is used to cauterize the thickened scar tissue associated with keloids.

Today's Health Hint —

Keep a family health record.

NOTES BY THE WAY

We suspect something's false about those stories of people on picnics removing bottle caps with their teeth. — Kitchener - Waterloo Record.

You're middle - aged if you remember the day you ordered a milk shake and the drugstore clerk left the half-filled metal container in front of you. — Toronto - Star.

Another excuse many will seize upon: "Statistics show that people who do hard work are more likely than others to have arthritis." — Port Arthur News - Chronicle.

A Kingston bachelor lost $21,000 — his life savings — when a burglar found his cache in a baking powder tin hidden inside an antique radio, while the owner was out for a drive. This could be called the bachelor's second loss. The first was the interest on the money he could have obtained at the bank. — Port William Times - Journal.

Boston Child — "Mamma! Mamma! The baby has fell out of the window!" Boston Mother — "Fallen,' you mean, dear. Quick! run for the doctor! — Montreal Star.

The age of miracles apparently has not ended after all. The alderman of Vancouver have refused to increase their pay by $1,200 a year, when they had the chance. — Edmonton Journal.

A famous sculptor once made a bust of Joan Barrymore. The night it was unveiled, an attractive society matron who was wearing a decollete gown, gushed to the actor: "I want you to know, Mr. Barrymore, that I traveled one hundred miles to see your bust unveiled." Barrymore's eye turned to the low cut gown. "And to think, madam," he sighed, "that I don't have to move a step to repay the compliment." — Galt Reporter.

U.S. Tariff Pressures

By Arch MacKenzie
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Official United States hopes for freer trade are under political and other pressures and the trend is being watched carefully by Canada and every other country involved.

Congressman William E. Miller of New York, Republican vice - presidential candidate, lashed out Labor Day at the concepts of tariff reductions and less restrictive immigration regulations. He said these threaten the security of the American working man.

Miller spoke in vulnerable territory, South Bend, Ind., where the Studebaker auto company last December announced that it was closing its plants and transferring to Hamilton, Ont.

He did not mention Canada specifically. The industrial transfer put some 7,000 men out of work initially and about 1,500 are reported still jobless.

But Miller said the U.S. target of a 50-per-cent tariff reduction across the board "is wrong in theory and in practice."

"We have seen how many industries already have been affected adversely; how many jobs have been lost; how many plants have been closed—from foreign competition. Do we have to make the same mistakes over and over again?"

RECIPROCAL REDUCTIONS

He added: "Any tariff reductions should be reciprocal and selective. Let's stop this business of all give and no take—helping foreign countries solve their unemployment problems only to increase ours at home.

Studebaker shifted its North American auto output to Hamilton to take advantage of tariff important incentives given by Canada to its auto producers who boost sales abroad.

The Canadian formula is under scrutiny by the U.S. Treasury department. The matter probably is the main economic problem between the two countries right now.

American firms affected by Studebaker's transfer and by more Canadian sales here of parts and vehicles have lodged their protests.

CANADA'S ARGUMENT

Canada's main argument is that she suffers a trade deficit with the U.S of some $500,000,000 annually in autos and parts alone and that more exports must be achieved to cut this margin.

There is other evidence of a shift in U.S. tariff thinking, although the administration itself remains committed strongly to the broad tariff reductions under continuing negotiation at Geneva.

One example is the success of the cattlemen's lobby in having Congress approve quotas on imported meat. The administration fought and modified the measure but it still stands as contrary to the spirit of Geneva's tariff cutting. Canada is little affected since most exports are live

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