The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

In Slow Motion

It has taken the city council a long time to decide to seek a meeting with provincial government officials to discuss the city's proposed low income housing project. It seems that it is unable to take action until provincial approval is granted, and that no reply has been received to a request which the council made early in the year for permission to go ahead with the project.

It waited, and waited, and waited, with the patience of Job himself, for this deferred communication to come; but now the decision has been reached not to wait any longer but, "at the earliest possible date," to seek a meeting with the delinquent provincial authorities and find out what the score is.

The provincial authorities tell a different story. They say a letter was duly forwarded in reply to the council's request, and presumably it got lost in transit. Having to go all that way through the mails, of course, anything could happen! Nobody seems to have worried about it much, anyway—until the press got criticising the council for inaction, that is. Then the story about this epistolary mixup came to light.

One would imagine, from the explanation, that all contacts between our civic and provincial authorities had been severed—that they were living on different sides of the Rockies, and all communication lines destroyed by some disastrous visitation of nature. Even then they would have had time, one would think, to communicate by smoke signals.

Now, however, there is to be a change. Mayor Gaudet feels that the city should "go over and hammer on the door to see what the holdup is" at the government office; and far be it from us to put a damper on his enthusiasm.

However, we think that Coun. Zakem had the right idea in urging the need of a committee of council members and interested citizens to make a thorough study of the project before seeking government sanction. That, of course, should have been done long ago. Perhaps when the lost letter turns up it will be found to contain the same suggestion.

A Cardinal Issue

At the end of the first full week of the U.S. Presidential campaign the New York Times, on Sunday, predicted that it is going to be "one of the roughest in recent history." There will be a good deal of rough and tumble in the British general eclection campaign too, which has gotten into its stride with the announcement, yesterday, that the election will be on October 15. But there are issues of particular concern in the U.S. campaign which give it a wider significance than anything involved in the prospects of a change of government in the United Kingdom.

These issues have been raised by the nature of the appeal which the fiery Republican candidate, Senator Goldwater, is making. One of his most disturbing statements has been that the NATO commander in Europe should be entrusted with authority to order combat use of "relatively low-yield" tactical nuclear weapons.

According to a policy adhered to by Republican and Democratic administrations alike, only the President of the United States is authorized to order the use of the country's nuclear weapons of any kind. In arguing for a reversal of this policy Senator Goldwater told a group of war veterans that the nuclear weapons of which he spoke were for infantry use and were "no more powerful than the firepower you have faced on the battle field. They simply come in smaller packages."

There might be no time in certain instances, he argued, for the NATO commander to reach the President while Europe is overrun by Soviet forces. Giving the commander absolute control over his tactical weapons for use on the ground "would not be out of line with ordinary military procedure." It would seem the sensible thing to do, as Goldwater expounded it.

But as President Johnson has pointed out, the smallest nuclear weapon available to the infantry—the Davy Crockett—fires a projectile rated at nearly 1,000 tons of TNT. This is ten times more powerful than the blockbusters that were used by strategic aircraft in World War II in the raids that made a shambles of Germany's great cities.

It has actually been the concern of the President, not so much to find a way to allocate his authority over all nuclear weapons, but to tighten it. The Pentagon has spent millions of dollars to perfect a system of command and control that would assure "actual as well as theoretical control by the President." These precautions are needed because, once nuclear weapons of even the Davy Crockett type are used, the nuclear threshold will have been crossed. The Soviets also have tactical nuclear weapons and would use them, and the losing side would turn to more and more powerful nuclear weapons, until a holocaust resulted.

This issue is of tremendous importance to world security, and provides a good reason, in itself, for the widespread hope throughout Europe and the Western world that the Goldwater campaign will not succeed.

More Safety Devices

The United States government is making a determined effort to encourage the manufacture of safer cars for the general public and create a public demand for safety features. This is the purpose of a bill passed by Congress to grant the general services administration—the government's purchasing agency—greater authority to determine safety modifications for the cars it purchases annually. Since these cars number about 36,000 a year, any safety standards the government sets are likely to be adopted generally.

What kind of safety features will result from this regulative authority? The New York Times says the administration has in mind antiskid devices, bumpers that absorb shock hydraulically, dual hudraulic breaking systems so that one will take over if the other fails, and stronger bodies to protect car occupants.

The Detroit auto makers haven't opposed the bill, but they are described as not being happy about it. They view it as a step toward compulsory installation of safety devices. Actually, it is maintained, this could lead to beneficial results if the government and industry work together. The federally owned cars could make an excellent test fleet for trying out on a large scale safety devices developed by the industry and given limited testing on proving grounds.

This is a move to be welcomed by the travelling public. It could have far-reaching results in Canada, too, where similar safety devices would undoubetdly follow if they were introduced on an extensive scale across the line. Whatever objections there may be to compulsory installation of such devices, they are more than offset by the need for reducing the appalling slaughter that is taking place on our highways.

EDITORIAL NOTE

An optimistic report on the scientific fight against cancer was made recently by Dr. Wendell G. Scott, president of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Scott said that there has never been greater optimism in the medical and scientific world about cancer than there is today. He reported that it is the general opinion among investigators working on leukemia that this disease wil be stricken from the list of incurable diseases within the foreseeable future

THE OTTAWA BEATLES

DIFFICULT SITUATION

The Queen's Safety Above Politics

Guelph Mercury

Publicity for himself and for the terrorist FLQ of which he is a member have inspired an 18-year-old convict's tale of a plot to kill the Queen when she visits Quebec next month.

This is the stated opin on of Prime Minister Pearson. If he is right, Mr. Diefenbaker's nosy demands "as leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition" that the Queen be provided with the ultimate in safety and that the FLQ be crushed serve no purpose but the political. They do add greatly to the publicity in which the FLQ hoodlums bask.

The Prime Minister, Justice Minister Favreau and Quebec Premier Lesage have all repeatedly given assurances that every precaution to safeguard the Queen will be taken. As Mr. Pearson has predicted: "I am sure that her visit will be both a happy and a safe one."

He has added a statement which will echo the point of view of most Canadians and which no doubt might be repeated by Her Majesty if she were free to comment: "I think it would be shameful to surrender to this kind of minority and vicious propaganda."

And so it would. True it is that there is always risk when the head of state appears in public. The assissination of President Kennedy proves that. No doubt Canada has a few morons of the lee Aswald stamp. So has the United Kingdom. Just days ago an unbalanced woman in Glasgow threw eggs at the Queen's car. A few years ago there were threats to kill her if she visited Northern Ireland. She did not turn back then.

It would be unthinkable for the Government of Canada to advise the Queen of Canada that it could not be responsible for her safety, that she had better stay in London. Yet this is what a certain headline hunter outside of Parliament now advocates.

As the minister primarily responsibiity for the safety of the Queen Mr. Favreau cannot as a matter of sound security give direct replies to all of the questions by Mr. Diefenbaker. The a matter of supreme delicacy.

He must have acquired some knowledge of security, some higher sense of responsibility during his own years as P.M. He should demonstrate them by refraining from adding his daily quota to the FLQ's scrapbook and by helping to cool the atmosphere in which Canada's anti-subversive experts are doubtless at work.

Conservatives may not have full confidence in the Liberal Government in this matter; the Liberals may distrust the Conservatives; but Canadians of all parties have faith in the RCMP. The federal force, however, cannot do its best work in a spotlight directed at it from the Opposition benches.

It's A Dog's Life

Montreal Gazette

One of the most successful politicians of recent American history has died — Checkers, the famous cocker spaniel who made a possible Richard Nixon's career in politics.

In 1952, Mr. Nixon was Republican candidate for Vice-President. He had been accused of having accepted campaign funds in an improper manner, he was in serious trouble.

Mr. Nixon went on television and radio. He made a dramatic speech claiming he had done nothing wrong. But there was one thing. He had accepted a dog as a present from a political supporter.

"And you know," said Mr Nixon, "the kids love the dog, and I just want to say this right now, that regardless of what they say about it, we're going to keep it." Over 175,000 telegrams from viewers flooded in, mostly supporting Mr Nixon. Checkers, who had saved the day, became a national hero. Mr. Nixon stayed on the ticket and became Vice-President.

Checkers was not the only famous dog in recent American history. President Roosevelt's Scottie, named Fala, became a hero of the 1944 campaign. Roosevelt was accused of having sent a destroyer just to bring Fala home from some far-away corner of the world. Fala, said Mr. Roosevelt, was furious at this libel. And apparently the American people were furious too, because Mr. Roosevelt was easily re-elected.

And very recently, President Johnson pulled the ears of his two dogs, Him and Her. He has been regarded as a very suspicious character ever since. He has been doing his best to make amends. But it remains to be seen whether Him and Her are prepared to forgive Mr. Johnson and let him win the election, or whether they will let loose a howl at the wrong moment and finish his career.

No Small Nuclear Arms

Globe and Mail, Toronto

"Make no mistake. There is no such thing as a conventional nuclear weapon." President Lyndon Johnson told an election audience in Detroit. He went on to say that for 19 years no nation had used atomic weapons against another.

"To do so now," he said, "is a political decision of the highest order and it would lead us down an uncertain path of blows and counterblows whose outcome none may know."

It is reassuring to have these words from President Johnson at a time when the nuclear policy of his Administration is under heavy criticism from the Republican opposition. Earlier, Secretary of Defense Cyrus Vance described the power of tactical nuclear weapons

A typical battlefield nuclear weapon, Mr. Vance said, has a destructive power five times greater than the bomb used at Hiroshima. The nuclear firepower of a single infantry division is hundreds of times greater than that of the bomb used at Hiroshima.

This information is worth recalling in the light of Senator Barry Goldwater's recent attempts to make the use of nuclear weapons respectable. In his election campaign he has frequently referred to what he calls small, tactical, conventional nuclear battlefield weapons.

"Let me stress," he told the Veterans of Foreign Wars recently, "that these small, conventional, nuclear weapons are no more powerful than the firepower you have faced on the battlefield. They simply come in a smaller package."

How comforting are the three words: small, conventional and tactical. How reassuring to be told that a new war can be fought like the old one: no horror, no devastation and everyone back home safe and sound.

The words imply that nuclear battles can be confined to the battlefield; and that a nuclear war can be won on the battlefield. The three adjectives hide reality; they do not describe it.

These are considerations which must be kept constantly before the people of the United States. Attempts to gloss over the realities of nuclear warfare by using cosy, comfortable words to describe that which is devastating and terrible must be repected.

Training Aids Handicapped

BBC London Letter

The importance of training for the mentally handicapped to help them to make the most of life despite their disabilities is increasingly recognized today. One of the most successful schemes in Britain is a special hostel and workshop for young people at Slough near London, set up by the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

When some of the work done there was exhibited recently in London, Hilary Haywood reported in the BBC General Overseas Service program "Here and Now" that it was of a quality that any unhandicapped person might well be proud to have done — and this in spite of the fact that some of the children were physically handicapped too.

"For instance, there were rugs which showed a remarkable sense of design and color; there were gay, embroidered clothes of far from simple patterns; there was metal work and pottery of great originality.

There were not only well-made tools, but well-made work resulting from their use — tables, trays, and lamps, soidly constructed, well-designed and pleasant to look at."

The special contribution that mentally retarded people could make to everyday living was shown at two extremes: "The startling talent shown in some of the paintings, and at the other end of the creative scale, the fiddly, monotonous assembly work which was being demonstrated by two teams of proud youngsters.

At benches they were assembling electrical plugs, making toys and demonstrating their mastery of domestic chores, such as ironing. Their pleasure in proving themselves to be of use was shown in their happy and contented faces as they worked."

At the Slough workshop it is being proved that there is a definite place in industry for mentally handicapped young workers who have been suitably trained. Once they have learned how to master travelling on public transport, handling money and so on, they go out to local factories and do a real job.

The eventual aim is that they should return to their own homes and lead a happy and useful life there. "But for this," said Hilary Haywood, "they need the friendship and support that we need ourselves. They need a little more, that's all."

Urinary Tract Infections

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Infections of the urinary passageway seldom develop spontaneously; they usually follow a respiratory disorder such as a common cold or a strep taroat. In others, bacteria spread from a nearby source such as the rectum, or prostate gland. Obstruction of the urinary passageway by a stricture or a kidney stone must be consicered.

When the bladder becomes infected, the ensuing inflammation leads to burning and frequency along with a vague sense of discomfort in the lower abdomen. If pyelonephritis is present there is dull ach ing over the involved kidney, together with chills and fever. Now and then abdominal pain is present.

Urinary tract infections may last a few days and then subside or persist in mild but stubborn form. The majority respond to penicillin or one of the sulfonamides; both may be administered simultaneous y The urine is tested at frequent intervals to determine whether the condition is responding to medications.

When prompt treatment is not necessary, tests are made to determine the causative organism and its sensitivity to different antibacterial agents. In this way the right medicine can be pitted against the culprit.

If infection persists or recurs despite a medication that laboratory tests indicate should be effective, further investigation of the urinary tract is needed, especially in children. Obstruction by a kidney stone is one possibility.

Visible blood in the urine should be considered a warning signal even though it disappears suddenly. In this respect the blood should never be "treated." It may mean anything from Bright's disease to tumor of the bladder or kidneys.

JOINT MICE

C. E. B. writes: After X-rays, my doctor told me I have mice in my coccyx. Have you any suggestions for relief?

REPLY

I assume he referred to little pieces of bone (joint mice) that may or may not have broken off from the tailbone. You mufled it by not asking your physician what to do when he made the diagnosis. Time, heat, and massage usually take care of pain in this area.

HARD - WORKING STUDENT

Mrs. R. writes: My son is recovering from mononucleosis. He is planning on entering college in September. He is an honor student and works hard to keep up his grades. If he loses sleep studying, is he likely to have a relapse?

REPLY

No, and he should be able to resume his studies after full recovery.

KNEE MISBEHAVIOR

J. D. writes: Every so often, while walking, my right knee gives way. Is this a form of arthritis or rheumatism?

REPLY

Your knee behavior may be secondary to the diseases mentioned. But, in most instances, this type of discomfort stems from weakness of the muscles and tissues that lend stability to the knees.

RINGWORM RECURRENCES

S.S. writes: Is there such a thing as a permanent cure of athlete's foot or does it recur from time to time?

REPLY

It may recur, especially when the victim allows the feet to become warm and sweaty and neglects good foot hygiene, including the use of anti - fungal powders.

Today's Health Hint—

Control your volatile temper.

(Note: All correspondence to Dr. VanDellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore VanDellen, care of Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

Promotional Value

London Free Press

Canada's shipment of 821,000 bushels of Ontario winter wheat to Pakistan is a gift but it may have valuable promotional value. It is the first wheat of this variety ever to be shipped to that country.

This type of wheat, usually channeled into pastry flour, has to develop its own market in lands that are more used to rice than this cereal. Even if it is a gift wheat it may tend to create a desire for this variety. It will be beneficial to the Ontario growers who have had a surplus to sell in recent years. Pakistan may yet be an actual buyer.

The program is through the Colombo Plan. It is the Canadian donation to the less developed lands of the Commonwealth. It comes from your pocket in federal taxes, yet it may pay a dividend in profits to the Ontarian wheat growers who supply the grain at normal cost.

It would also appear that Canada may have to do some more wheat promotion for the chance of Russia placing a major wheat order with Canada now is waning. Last year the half billion dollar purchase was made by August 25. There has been no hint that Russia has changed its mind since Premier Khrushchev said a month ago that Russia was self-sufficient in grain this year.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

If you are careless enough, your present car could last you a lifetime. — Wall Street Journal.

A doctor we know sighs for the day when he had only to buy Reader's Digest to keep up with his patients' medical knowledge. Now he has to watch five television programs every week, too.—Vancouver Times.

Some women were visiting the home of another woman who had a homely little girl. While the hostess was in the kitchen, one of the women, casting a glance at the little girl whispered: "She's not very pretty." "No", spoke up the little girl, "but she's awfully smart." — Montreal Star.

Cigarettes give you cancer, overweight causes heart disease. These are a couple of health tips from medical science, which also adds, "and above all, don't worry." — Calgary Herald.

Junior: "Pop, how much do people pay for a pound of babies?" Dad: "Son, you don't buy babies by the pound." Junior: "Then how come they always weigh brand new ones?" —Galt Reporter.

Some day a clever robber is going to make his escape in a car towing a boat on the highway, thereby making himself indistinguishable from the rest of the traffic.—Edmonton Journal.

Goldwater's Charges

By Arch MacKenzie

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Senator Barry Goldwater, the Republican party candidate for the U.S. presidency, has renewed an allegation the Democratic administration of the United States is "not beyond manipulating a foreign policy crisis in order to influence the election."

If that is true — and it was promptly and vigorously denied by State Secretary Dean Rusk and other senior government spokesmen — then President Johnson has a broad assortment of alternatives to play with in the Nov. 3 U.S. election campaign.

The Goldwater assertion, repeated in a weekend statement, came just before the latest tremor shook the fragile political house in South Viet Nam. That country's internal stabiltiy and its effect on the American-supported fight against communism in Southeast Asia had just been the subject of a four-day examination in Washington.

The full impact of the abortive rebellion, the third military intervention in South Viet Nam since last Nov. 1 not counting four major government adjustments, is still being appraised, say state department officials

OTHER TROUBLE SPOTS

There are any number of other spots where—if the Arizona senator is correct—Johnson could manipulate. There is Cyprus, The Congo, Indonesia or even such comparatively non-volatile areas as the continuing frigidity between the U.S. and France.

The best that can be said for most of these problems at this time is that they could be worse.

Canada and Malaysia

Hamilton Spectator

MALAYSIA, A FEDERATION of North Borneo, Sarawak, Singapore and Malaya, is a victim of an Indonesian megalomaniac's lust for power. It has understandably asked Canada and other Commonwealth countries for help.

Malaysia came into being on September 16, 1963, over the strenuous objections of Indonesian President Sukarno. He opposed the new federation on the ground that Britain was bound by treaty to defend the new nation and that its formation would continue British power in that area.

On September 18, 1963, more than 10,000 Indonesian supporters of Sukarno sacked and burned the British embassy in Jakarta. Later Sukarno denounced the incident and guaranteed safe passage out of the country to British nationals.

Indonesia, a potentially wealthy but vastly underdeveloped nation of almost 100 million (it is the world's largest archipelago), used to be the Netherlands East Indies. It has a history of anti - British feeling which Sukarno has cleverly fanned.

Sukarno wants more land for Indonesia. North Borneo will evidently suffice, for the moment. He claims it should have been given to Indonesia long ago.

Sukarno is acting like a Far Eastern version of Hitler. "Give us this and we won't ask for any more," is the gist of his whine.

Now Sukarno has taken the law into his own hands by dropping Indonesian parachutists on Malaysian territory. It is the first really overt act arising from a sea of threats.

As the United Nations has shown no signs of getting involved in this dispute, Malaysia may only find comfort in the Commonwealth's lap. Already Britain, Australia and New Zealand have sent aid. Canada, which already supplies Malaysia with some fishing equipment, will be expected to do the same.

It may be that the Commonwealth, led by Britain, will have to make a display of force to stop Sukarno. As part of its obligation to Malaysia, it cannot plan to do less.

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