

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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No End In Sight

It is surely a major tragedy for civilization that at this Christmas season, the strains are increasing in Viet Nam. Another fateful stage was passed by American bombing of military targets within Hanoi's city limits, with loss of civilian life. Terrorism in South Viet Nam has been mounting and, as a result of the American air raids, Hanoi has asked the Viet Cong to step this up. United Nations Secretary-General U Thant has voiced world concern and has again expressed his belief that a bombing halt on the North would be a first step in search for peace. Fifty-three labor members of Britain's Parliament have cabled President Johnson in dismay.

Last week U.S. State Secretary Dean Rusk spent three days in Paris explaining and seeking to justify American Vietnam policy to NATO allies. At Washington, American officials went into unusual detail to describe the bombing missions. The selected targets were purely military, they said: the Yen Vien railroad yard (a vital junction) and the Van Dien military vehicle depot. Both were close to the centre of Hanoi. If 100 civilians had been killed, as the Hanoi government reported, this could be due to Soviet surface-to-air missiles fired at American planes and falling back to earth. If indeed American bombs were to blame, it was an isolated case. It was to be regretted and, if possible, avoided in future.

All such statements fail to take into account the fact that the war now has reached a stage where bombing of the north will not be a determining factor in bringing it to an end. This must come from the ground (whether on the battlefields or in the minds of the peasants) in the south. In such circumstances, what would Washington lose in launching a truce effort at this time? If it should fail, as it did before last winter's five-weeks' bombing halt, the American military potential is so immense that it would quickly make up for any such momentary loss. If no such standoff is possible, all concerned face the grim prospect of a steadily widening war and a steadily deepening of its intensity.

Perhaps there is a gleam of hope in the report that the U.S. government is considering the release of sick and wounded North Vietnamese prisoners of war. It is recalled that when the Korean War had reached a stalemate, some of the most effective peace feelers involved the release of disabled prisoners, thus starting a chain of negotiations which eventually led to an armistice. It is doubtful if such a gesture would contribute much to peace in Viet Nam, but it would have a value of its own. As one commentator suggests, it would perhaps be the first glimmer of humanity in the entire war. To date it's been one of the most cruel and most savage in history.

Lively Controversy

A Sydney, Australia, paper carries an entertaining comment about a controversy that has been going on over the marketing of British eggs. It seems that the British Egg Board stamps its best-quality eggs with a lion emblem, a practice "which is supposed to give them stamina and make them trustworthy." But it doesn't always do so, housewives say. They have complained that some of the lionized eggs have obviously become exhausted, and are no longer with it. Lady Barnett, a leading housewife, has asked the Egg Board to put date stamps on eggs instead of lions as a kind of birth certificate. An Egg Board official replied with a splendidly scrambled metaphor. "Lady Barnett," he said, "is flogging a dead horse." Perhaps he meant that she had uncovered a

mare's nest, but he didn't like to say so. But he added that "farmers have no time to put dates on eggs—and nobody would believe them if they did. If Lady Barnett can produce a hen that will stamp its own eggs, it would help the board enormously."

That, comments the Sydney paper, seemed rather a gross reflection on the honesty of even the hardest-boiled farmer. And it would be asking a lot of the bird, as well. Already, there have been strong complaints against intensive production methods in British farming. Hens have never been more efficient, but if they are asked to be computers as well as producers, a lot of them will go on a sit-down strike—or get shell-shock.

"Nevertheless," concedes the Sydney paper, "dated eggs would undoubtedly acquire a cachet of their own. Connoisseurs would be able to talk about them like vintage wines." But it concludes that polling day being just around the corner, it would be rather tactless to discuss the subject further.

Polling day has come and gone in Australia, and the voters came out strongly for the government policy of sending armed forces to support the United States in its Viet Nam war. But we haven't heard any further word from the egg front.

Good For Them!

The Progressive Conservative Women of Canada are apparently more concerned with making a constructive contribution to the nation's Centennial program than with quarreling over their party's leadership problem. They are now in process of scouring the country for any and all documents, books, papers, photographs and so on that will shed additional light on Canada's political development. Already some remarkable, and hitherto unknown, records have been found and no doubt many more will be.

This campaign is directed at creating a library—to be known as the Macdonald-Cartier library—not on partisan lines but as an institution in which all Canadians, of whatever political persuasion, should be able to take pride. It is being developed in two sections, one for books and the other for documents dealing with all phases of our political history. There will be sections, for example, representing each province and sections on the political history of Britain, France and other countries as well. All Canadian parties—including the Communist party—are to be represented. The library will be housed at Ottawa where members of Parliament, parliamentary journalists, and political scholars, will have ready access to it.

This is a move that deserves the fullest public support, and could rank among the most important projects of our Centennial year.

Seeking British Market

According to an Ontario exchange, the Rhodesian crisis has faced Canadian tobacco growers with an embarrassing dilemma. Should they expand their production to take up what the British formerly brought from Rhodesia, or should they continue to tailor their production largely for the local market? If they follow the first course they may be able to sell perhaps twice as much tobacco as normal to Britain. But they may also be left with excess production if the Rhodesian supply opens up again.

The Ontario Flue Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board is sending a committee to Britain early next year to get its bearings on this problem. It will seek a contract to cover a minimum period of three years, just to be safe. The board is still struggling with the problem of paying off the debt incurred when it bought the unsold portion of the 1961 crop. This was not disposed of finally until last year and the board lost more than half a million dollars on the transaction and still owes the bank about half this amount. Naturally it doesn't want to be caught again. If a firm understanding is reached with British processors, it could serve as a spur to further efforts in tobacco production, not only in Ontario but here and in other parts of Canada where the plant is grown. It is much too soon to do more than speculate on such prospects, but the results of the Ontario board committee's mission to Britain may help to clarify the picture.

EDITORIAL NOTE

A Canadian trade official has been barred from visiting Communist China at this time. Fortunately there is no such restriction placed on the freedom of movement enjoyed by our good Canadian wheat.



MONTAGUE RIVER SCENE

OLD THEME REVIVED

The Lost Continent Of Atlantis

National Geographic News Bulletin

A new scientific theory suggests that the Atlantis legend is based on fact, but the lost continent lies in the Mediterranean rather than the Atlantic. The philosopher Plato described Atlantis in two works, Timaeus and Critias, written about 370 B.C. Plato reported that Egyptian priests told the Greek lawgiver Solon, who lived two centuries earlier, that Atlantis existed as a powerful kingdom 8,000 years before Solon's birth. Located beyond Gibraltar, Atlantis was supposedly a country larger than Asia Minor and Libya combined; its armies overran the Mediterranean islands. One day the sea overwhelmed Atlantis, and it vanished forever.

Down through the ages, Atlantis has excited speculation. Medieval writers, who heard about Atlantis from Arabian geographers, believed the legend to be fact. Later scholars suggested that pre-Columbian civilizations in America might have been established by colonists from the lost continent. Recently a Greek scientist, Professor Angelos Galanopoulos, head of the University of Athens Seismological Institute, suggested that the Atlantis legend may have originated with the volcanic eruption of the Mediterranean island of Santorin (Thira), about 70 miles north of Crete. Marine geologists have found

contains two layers of volcanic ash or tephra. Both layers are thickest near Santorin. By measuring isotopes in the tephra, geologists estimate that the first eruption occurred 25,000 years ago and the second about 1400 B.C. STUPENDOUS ERUPTION The first eruption was cataclysmic, but even the second was stupendous. It may have surpassed the 1883 eruption of Krakatau, which destroyed about 300 towns and drowned 36,000 people in what is now Indonesia. If the 1400 B.C. explosion merely equalled that of Krakatau, tidal waves would have inundated the northern shore of Crete and the Mediterranean coasts from Tunisia to Syria. The blast could have caused the collapse of Crete's Minoan civilization. Creteans fleeing to the Greek mainland may have been a major force in the creation of Greece's golden age. Professor Galanopoulos believes a translation error was made in Solon's report. The Egyptian symbol for 100—a coiled rope—was mistaken for 1,000, symbolized by a lotus flower. If Atlantis disappeared only 300 years before Solon's visit to Egypt, rather than 8,000, the disaster would have happened about the time of the Santorin eruption. Plato may have located Atlantis in the Atlantic because the same translation error made Atlantis so big that it could not have existed in the Mediterranean. Scientists hope to make an extensive investigation of the Santorin volcano. With perseverance—and luck—the mystery of the lost continent of Atlantis may at last be cleared up.

Pain In The UN's Neck

Hanilton Spectator

Two or three times a year since 1960, the United Nations has been reminded of the unfairness of its rule that gives each sovereign nation, regardless of size, one vote in the General Assembly. The latest reminder came with the admittance of Barbados, a nation of 225,000 people, to the UN last week. Barbados, along with a score or so of other tiny countries, has as much voting strength in the assembly as the United States, Russia, Britain or Canada. It is not altogether unlikely that it will add its weight to that of the African bloc on questions pertaining to racial supremacy.

The average African nouveau nation is ruled by arrogant men who are quick to smother irritating opposition before it endangers their position of power. If the UN survives the turmoil and the tempest of today into a peaceful tomorrow, it will be a miracle. It would have a far better chance of achieving its laudable aims if it did not have to endure the nightmare of the Big Five's veto powers and the incredible unfairness of the one-country one-vote rule. The UN will always find it almost impossible to keep from taking two steps backward for every forward step while blocs of midget nations can override the wishes of the few who control the action outside the UN. Obviously, no major power is going to become deeply involved in a world body that gives pip squeaks the right to tweak its nose out of sheer cussedness or a desire to get even.

PUBLIC FORUM

TIGNISH BRIEFS Sir, — Some weeks ago, it seems ages ago, I had what might be termed the singular honour of formulating in writing three Tignish briefs for the meeting of the Provincial Cabinet in Alberton. These briefs received the endorsement of various organizations in Tignish. (For the benefit of the reading public, the briefs dealt with the urgency of providing fish ladders at the Arsenault and Blanchard Ponds, the possible establishment of a golf course in West Prince and lastly, the choice of a proposed site for a National Park in our area.)

Needless to say, we were assured that all these points would receive immediate attention on the part of the government. To date, we have not witnessed any thing justifying this so-called "immediate attention". Therefore, I should like again to deal with these issues: No. 1 Fish ladders: Five specimens of trout have been observed lately at the Arsenault Pond attempting to scale a nine-foot barricade in search of spawning areas in the brook above the dam. Those poor miserable trout have nothing to rub their noses at but a mass of concrete and timber. If they had the chance, they would certainly turn up their noses at these AIDA people who have placed them in such a dilemma. Sports fishermen and tourists have been awaiting those repeatedly promised ladders for the past three years. We understand that the government has in its employ a specialist gifted in ascertaining the effects of dams on trout conservation. Where is he? Has he visited these ponds? No. 2 A Golf Course for West Prince: The brief concerning the golf course suggested three sites in the Tignish Area and welcomed the government to send Canada's best golf course architect to survey them when he visited the Island recently. Did he come to Tignish? No one knows. We do know however that he did in fact visit Brudenell which has received its new golf course. Wives, think twice before deciding to buy your husbands golfing equipment for Christmas. It might be better to save your money for golfing fees at Cavendish and Brudenell next summer. May we again remind the Liberal Government that the establishment of a golf course in the West Prince area was one of its campaign promises.

No. 3 Another National Park: I am not entirely opposed to the establishment of a National Park in West Prince, but feel that perhaps in the not too distant future, we shall be campaigning with slogans of "Let's keep the Island for the natives!" Tourists are literally crawling all over us now, but there is no doubt in anyone's mind that such a project would better the economic condition of many in West Prince. How long shall we, the people of West Prince be the forgotten ones of this fair province? Are these above factors indicative of a supposedly youthful, vigorous and progressive government? Certainly not! They merely corroborate government indecision and weakness. Shall we come to relegate politicians to the fate of Gulliver in Jonathan Swift's immortal classic "Gulliver's Travels" or shall we come to see in government, men who show, by their actions, that they are for the people. I am, Sir, etc. J. HENRY GAUDET Tignish, P.E.I.

Cleanliness In Kitchen

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Health officers who inspect kitchens of restaurants, clubs, and hotels find that when meals are first served the kitchens usually are immaculate, and the food is handled with care. But as business increases, tension mounts; at the end of an hour everyone is working at top speed and the kitchen, like any busy workshop, becomes more and more messy. Make reservations early and avoid the possible consequences of such an environment.

Cleanliness in kitchens and the safe handling of food are essential for protection against food poisoning. There are several infections of this type and various routes through which contamination is possible. In some instances food itself has decomposed or has been adulterated. In others, the blame rests with food handlers who have a cold or an infection on hands or fingers. The equipment may be unclean, especially dishes, silverware and mixing bowls. Unless the dishwashing machine works properly the dishes are not safe to use.

A common type of food poisoning is brought on by staphylococci. These organisms are as fond as we are of foods containing custard and cream fillings as well as dairy products, meat, and cured ham. When the invaders gain a foothold they not only multiply rapidly but give off a noxious substance that is toxic. Numerous epidemics have been traced to foods that have been allowed to stand at room temperature for hours during which time the bacteria increased rapidly.

This type of food poisoning is common in the summer months because heat acts like an incubator so far as germs are concerned. They grow so quickly that within a few hours that delectable looking ham or egg salad becomes a poisonous dish.

We must rely upon the integrity of our health departments who inspect restaurant facilities regularly. In case of doubt, avoid foods known to become tainted quickly, including those mentioned previously.

GLAUCOMA A reader writes: During the last week my husband developed pain in the left eye and the doctor made a diagnosis of glaucoma. He said this is a serious condition that may lead to blindness. Do you have any information that will help us to better understand this disease? REPLY Yes, but it is a long story.

OLD WIVES' TALE Mrs. B. writes: My pregnant sister has been told that if she does not get enough exercise her baby will grow to her. Is this possible? REPLY What a whopper! This notion does not have a semblance of truth.

ERADICATING HEAD LICE M. Q. writes: How can an adult get rid of nits in the scalp hair? REPLY We have a leaflet on head lice and nits.

(NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

Everyone agrees that the government has too many reports. (Hes, surveys and paperwork in general. But apparently the only thing to do about it is to write a report to be filed away. — Calgary Herald)

A politician is someone who laughs harder the fourth time he hears a joke than he did the first time, a wit says. But may he be a bit of a fool? — Ottawa Journal.

Mrs. Weirich: — "My last maid was too familiar with the policeman. I hope I can trust you?" The Maid: — "Oh, yes, ma'am, I can't hear them. I've been brought up to hate the very sight of them. Pa's a burglar." — Montreal Star.

Foreman: "Why does it take three of you guys to change a burned-out light bulb?" Assistant: "Jim holds the bulb while Frank and I turn the ladder." — Globe and Mail.

People always admire men who go down fighting gallantly in a lost cause, dreaming the impossible dream, like the press agent who informs everyone annually that women are going to smoke cigars. — Vancouver Sun.

An exasperated salesman abandoned his car in a no-parking zone, leaving this note: "I have circled this block 20 times I have an appointment and must keep it or lose my job. Forgive us our trespasses." Upon returning he found a parking ticket and this note: "I've circled this block 20 times. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation." — Montreal Star.

Victory For Stilton

We hail the recent victory of Stilton cheese in the British High Court of Justice. The decision provides needed compensation for mass production society. Thanks to the decision of Mr. Justice Pennycuik, makers of this fine old delicacy in the area of its origin are now assured the right to register its name as a trade-mark. No highly capitalized company outside can flood the market with machine-made, cellophane-wrapped bunks of an unauthentic copy under the original name. The decision reverses an order by a British official who, several years ago, held the name could not be legally registered since the cheese made in the original area could not, in his opinion, be distinguished from that made elsewhere by modern methods. Mr. Justice Pennycuik showed himself a connoisseur of cheeses in asserting the contrary to be true. He ruled that the Cheesemakers' Association of Melton-Mowbray could certify genuine Stilton and limit the use of the name to that certified. This outcome seems to us fair. There are more than 400 named cheeses on the market in the Western world, and products of those of ancient origin using secret recipes and processes should be able to protect the venerable names.

Shouldn't Be Disparaged

Ditch diggers and girls who can sew are not listed in the International Labor Organization Guide, according to Deputy Manpower, Minister Tom Kent. It seems that immigration officers are using this guide to determine who is skilled, and the absence of the above categories in the listings has caused some surprise in government circles. Senator David Croil, member of a committee examining the white paper on immigration, put it this way: "Can you for a moment tell us that a young girl doesn't acquire a precious skill at her mother's knee when she learns to sew?" The senator is right. Even allowing for automated processes which likely have displaced some workers in this field, where would the textile industry be without its expert women employees skilled in the art of needlework? The Irish linen industry, though it has undergone modernization in recent years, maintains its high reputation for quality because it also employs women to hand stitch the intricate design work. Where would the Nottingham lace industry be without people with similar skills? And shirt manufacturers the world over? Manitoba is aware of the competence of old country people in this regard. The province needs

Our Yesterdays

Defence Minister Ralston said that no word has been received from the Canadian troops in Hong Kong since it was reported the Japanese had landed on Hong Kong Island "in considerable force" and that heavy fighting was in progress. Five thousand Italian seamen and troops apparently en route to Libya were drowned Dec. 18 when British naval units sank two Italian cruisers, a destroyer and three transports in a fierce night fight off Cape Bon on the Tunisian coast. French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau said the main reason Britain and France agreed to cease fire in Egypt was pressure from the British Labor party on Prime Minister Eden. Prime Minister Nehru of India indicated he opposes a 5% steps to reopen the Suez Canal other than on Egypt's terms.

Ever noticed how quickly they grow?



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