The Guardian

"Cov... Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"

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

Communism & The Schools

In a message to the American Political Science Association President Eisenhower suggested that the "facts" of Communism should be taught in the nation's schools so that young people from their earliest years might be in a position to "discriminate between truth and falsehood". This is something that the Association itself has been advocating for some time. In the past, however, any American teacher who so much as mentioned Communism in the classroom was almost certain to be removed from his post on the ground that he must have had some degree of sympathy for the pernicious doctrine. Congressional committees, especially, have seemed to work on the theory that ignorance of Communism is the best protection against its wiles. Now that the President has spoken, it is to be hoped that more common sense and less hysteria will be applied to the subject, and not only in the United States but in all countries where the Communist apparatus is at work. The truth is always the best weapon to use against falsehood.

There is something else to be said, however. Before anything is done about giving Communism a place in the curriculum of any Canadian school, great care should be taken to see that the teachers are qualified to handle the subject; and that calls for intensive training not only in the social aspect of Communism but in its philosophical, political, and economic phases as well. Moreover—and this is perhaps more important than anything else—text books will have to be selected with the utmost care and vigilance. In any subject a little learning can be a dangerous thing; in such a dangerous and wily a system as Marxism, especially in its modern role as a tool of Soviet propaganda, it could be downright disastrous.

It is right that young people should know the facts about this would-be destroyer of everything that is good and righteous in civilized society. How else can they be expected to recognize the danger of associating with it? But it will never do to place responsibility for factual interpretation in incompetent hands.

Newfoundland's Premier

Premier J. R. Smallwood of Newfoundland can claim to be a man of distinction. To begin with, he steered Newfoundland into Confederation despite the fact that the Convention of 1948 which was called to discuss the island's future did not even mention Confederation as a possible alternative to either continuation of Government-by-Commission (that was the status at the time) or return to Dominion status which had been suspended in 1933 following a series of financial reverses. It was only when Mr. Smallwood, virtually single-handed, induced a large number of citizens to sign a pro-Confederation petition that the British Government consented to add union with Canada to the referendum's ballot.

Passing over the achievements of his government in the past seven years—not inconsiderable achievements, most observers agree—his waiting the full five years allowed under election laws before seeking a new mandate (the last election was in November 1951) adds another distinction to his record. For some reason that has never been properly explained, elections every four years, sometimes three, have become the fashion in provincial politics. Unless special circumstances make a premature appeal to the electorate a necessity—and these circumstances hardly ever occur—it should not be considered at all. Besides being an unnecessary expense, a premature election disrupts normal procedures of government and, at the same time, unduly emphasizes political divisions. There are, of course, exceptions; but in general a good rule for Provincial Governments is to stay in office for the allotted term, unless forced out in the meantime by lack of legislative confidence.

Another distinctive act by Mr. Smallwood was announcing this year's election formally only 21 days before voting is to take place (that being the minimum time required under the Election Act) without laying himself open to the charge of calling a "snap" election. He announced over a year ago that an election would definitely be held sometime in the fall of 1956. If, therefore, the Opposition strategists are not ready for the fray, they have no one to blame but themselves. As for the actual vote-seeking campaign, it will be short and sweet—short, anyway—and that is a good thing for all concerned. There is no reason why election campaigns should drag on for several months. When they do, voters become bored by the endless repetitions; and, what is worse, some candidates start out by saying one thing and end up by saying another, having forgotten in the long drawn out skirmishing what it was they wanted to convey to the electors.

Lastly, as the old-time preachers used to say, Mr. Smallwood's kindly concern for the Opposition makes him a rare political specimen. He said the other day that one reason for his giving no more than 21 days formal notice was that "Opposition parties often find long campaigns too expensive." That may have been a tongue-in-the-cheek observation; but there is no doubt that he would like to see a stronger opposition in the legislature—if for no other reason, so that he might have more critics to confound; for it is apparent that verbal duelling is one of his favorite pastimes. It would be a strange twist of fortune if the majority of voters were to do what he says he would like a sizable minority to do: vote for Opposition candidates. But, evidently, he is willing to risk that.

EDITORIAL NOTES

An expert at Fordham University says he has evidence that Neanderthal Man lived a long time after science had anounced his demise. He might still be around, as far as that goes.

• • •

Even if Messrs. Stevenson and Kefauver don't come close to victory in November, the great Democratic showing in the Maine election will give them something nice to remember for the next four years. For the remaining part of the campaign it will be their one best hope and a sure shelter from the angry storms.

• • •

The head of the International Finance Corporation, an organization which came into existence a few months ago to supplement the work of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, believes that "some American investments abroad were unduly motivated by a wish to help other nations and not enough by the wish to help the United States." Whatever truth there may be in that view, it isn't going to be easy to popularize it abroad.

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Food for serious thought was contained in a statement by Rev. Dr. Mooney, treasurer of the United Church of Canada, in addressing the church's 17th general council meeting at Windsor yesterday. He pointed out that Canadians spent more than five times as much on alcoholic beverages during the past ten years than they gave in church contributions. Canadian smokers are spending three times as much money on tobacco as on church work.

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Premier Smallwood's announcement that government candidates will be "named" by him in plenty of time is a reminder that political conventions in the usual sense are unknown in Newfoundland. The leader of each party picks his men for the various constituencies. Then, ten days before the election they are "nominated". This is a mere formality. It may not be quite as democratic as the other system, but it does assure the party leader of candidates to his liking.

THERE'S A MODERN METHOD OF DEALING WITH BEARS

OTTAWA REPORT

Newsmen Touring Canada

By Patrick Nicholson

OTTAWA: Prosperous, booming and immense Canada seems like a wonderland to a group of journalists who have just arrived to visit us, from eleven of our NATO allies in Europe.

And it seems that this is largely an unknown country to the older visitors, because we are a Johnny-come-lately country. Our economic development, our military significance and our diplomatic stature have all been attained since today's middle-aged people left school, and thus since such people learned our historical and geographic facts in their school book.

Part of the work being quietly and efficiently carried out by the Paris headquarters of NATO is to arrange these tours of newspapermen to all the allied countries. Through these mutual exchanges, those whose job it is to inform the public are themselves well-informed about their allies.

Newspapermen and broadcasters can meet the top military and political and industrial figures, they tour ports, camps and airfields; they visit arms plants; and they are taken to see capital cities and typical communities.

QUICKIE TOUR BY AIR

The group which is now touring Canada flew direct from Paris to Ottawa. For three weeks, the 18 visitors will fly around central and western Canada and our northland. The next tour will cover the Maritimes and central Canada.

The Department of External Affairs here is sponsoring the tour, with a big assist from National Defence headquarters. The program and itinerary will show our visitors more of our natural beauties, our man-made wonders, our points of interest and our fields of opportunity, than most of us get to see in our whole lifetime. They will see the highlights, from Niagara to Yellowknife, from Victoria to Montreal; they will stay in Vancouver, but they will be shown Moose Jaw from the air.

In addition to what their eyes can see and their ears hear, each visitor will take home a sheaf of facts and figures about Canada and the places visited. So when they reach home, they will be able to write or broadcast instructive and intriguing articles about our growing young country; and they will enjoy the advantage of a closer understanding of this country when they comment upon our affairs in future.

BOOST FOR OUR GROWTH

This all adds up to making Canada better known among our allies, and to correcting any false impressions which may have been created in the past. This shadowy group of foreigners, perhaps flying overhead while we sleep by night, or motoring unnoticed along our street as we head to work, is learning about our present and our future during its 10,000 mile tour. The result will attract more and more worthwhile immigrants, expand our foreign trade, win friends for our boys in uniform serving overseas, and above all make Canada better known and better understood abroad.

It was interesting to hear the preconceived picture of Canada-da which some of these visitors brought with them. Typical of the misinformation was the comment one young German radioman made to me. He told me how keen he was to visit the great city of Gimli, Manitoba; he had learned in Germany that Gimli boasted the best-looking girl population to be seen anywhere in Canada. Its fame abroad has obviously outstripped its official population of 1,324 souls!

Listening to this German visitor, Mary MacDonald (who is Girl Friday to our Mike Pearson) suggested that on the contrary Ottawa is top contender for the title of the nation's beauty capital. This is a city of white collar workers almost exclusively, she said; so the girls seen on Ottawa's streets are on the average the best turned-out of any community in the country. Just stand outside the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's offices at 5 p.m. and watch the beauties emerge, she told the German. (Mary used to work there herself.)

She may be right about Ottawa. But I bet our visitors will take home with them equally vivid expressions of the good-looking girls seen in many other Canadian cities too.

The Seriousness Of Suez

By Heath Macquarrie

Although the British and French governments describe the failure of the Menzies mission as a grave threat to peace, it is unlikely that the two European powers will take military action to thwart Egypt's coup in seizing the Suez Canal. The United States, two months away from a presidential election, is certain to urge caution upon its European allies. In the end Britain and France will probably accept the fact of Egypt's victory, distasteful as it may be.

But beyond the immediate issue of control of the strategic waterway lie other considerations of great long-range significance. At stake in the Middle East today is something more than British prestige, although that too is being seriously undermined. The loss of Middle East oil would cripple Britain's whole economy and disastrously threaten her world position. Possession and control of the Suez canal by an unfriendly and irresponsible power might put Britain in a position of grave peril too fearful for Britons to contemplate. This deep concern for maintaining a supply of Arab oil goes far to explain British reluctance to remove the garrisons from the Canal Zone and London's stubborn determination to remain in command at Cyprus.

Time was when the Middle East was an area of British influence. Indeed many of the weak Arab states functioned after the Great War within the protecting folds of British strength. Much money and effort was expended by the United Kingdom to maintain a friendly aggregation of states in the crucial Middle East area. But since the second war the old order has been overthrown. The rising tide of Arab nationalism has overwhelmed British influence and power throughout the area. The Iranians under Mossadegh, the Egyptians under Nasser have led the way in the anti-British campaigns but they have not stood alone. General Glubb, long-time commander of Jordan's famed Arab Legion, was dismissed a short while ago by a Jordanese Government gradually growing hostile to its one-time British protector. Even friendly Iraq, a formal ally, has shown its support of Nasser in the Suez crisis. Throughout the Middle East British and Western prestige has sunk to a low ebb. Only the tough tiny state of Israel can be counted as a dependable ally of the Western world. And Israel is hated by the Arabs who regard its people as westernized.

What makes the situation even more serious is the ever-present shadow of Russia. Whether the Kremlin smiles or frowns the cold fact remains that Russian influence in the Middle East is being gradually extended as that of Britain, France and the United States declines. Closer diplomatic and political ties, economic assistance, sales of military supplies; these reveal all too clearly that Russia is now a powerful factor in the Middle East. That Moscow has widened her sphere of influence in a vital area cannot be denied nor should its seriousness be underestimated. The triumph of Nasser may be damaging to world peace because of its effect upon Egypt's dominant position within the Arab world, but Nasser is still a puny figure on the broader world stage. If his actions result in a serious weakening of the Western alliance and a consequent strengthening of the Communist world then will his role in world affairs assume major proportions.

It is considerations such as these which must be at the forefront of diplomatic considerations in these present anxious days. Even if war or the serious threat of war is ruled out the hard fact of big-power competition cannot be overlooked. Indeed it is not at all unlikely that Soviet diplomacy is far more successful when it wears a smile that when it rattles the sabre. Certainly it will require the greatest ability and the utmost unity in our world to prevent the massive Communist super-state from winning a major victory from the Suez dispute.

The Poet's Corner

GATHERING HORSE CHESTNUTS

Small boys are gathering dark treasures now,
Horse chestnuts polished like mohogany;
With eager eyes they scan the swaying bough,
And then search patiently from tree to tree.
While squirrels chatter from a branch above,
Within their bags they place each gleaming prize;
On through a golden interval they rove,
Exclaiming over those of largest size.
The shadows lengthen and the breeze grows cool.
A scarlet glow infuses all the west,
One last rich store, and now the bags are full,
As squirrels scamper to a tree-trunk nest.
Back from their autumn odyssey they come,
Small boys who bear horse chestnuts gaily home.

—Louise Darcy.

Sharing The Guilt

(Montreal Gazette)

Soviet legal experts are officially on record, a record only 10 years old, as stating that Nikita, Khrushchev, Premier Bulganin and the rest of the Stalin successors are as guilty as Stalin of Stalin's crimes.

It all happened at the Nurnberg trials of German war criminals. In defence of the accused it was stated — as Krushchev states it now — that Hitler's lieutenants were not guilty; they were only obeying Hitler's orders; they could not do otherwise.

General R.A. Rudenko, the Soviet Union's chief proscutor at the trials, wouldn't accept a word of it.

"As crimes result from a single criminal plan, common to the whole society," Rudenko declared, "the accomplices who have not personally committed these separate criminal actions and were not particularly informed of them, bear the responsibility for them."

Rudenko went on, according to the record in his argument that the full meaning of a 1943 Big Four agreement required that the "Moscow Declaration" be adhered to. That agreement said "men and members of the Nazi Party who have been responsible for, or have taken a consenting part in atrocities and crimes" must be punished.

Today, the "collective leadership" of the Soviet Union denies any collective guilt in the crimes of which they accuse Stalin.

Incidentally, the man who made the case in Nurnberg, General Rudenko, it now prosecutor-general for the whole Soviet Union.

The Age Old Story

The angel ofthe Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT NEW MEDICAL SERVICES?

Several medical services and facilities, in which I believe many of you will be interested, have recently been made available to the public.

The Nephrosis Foundation of New York and New Jersey, for example, has established a Cortisone Bank. It will try to supply hydrocortisone at reduced prices or at no cost al all to victims of childhood nephrosis who are unable to afford the usual retail price of this costly drug.

Applications for hydrocortisone should be made in writing by the patient's physician. They should be sent to Henry W. Kaessler, M. D., The National Nephrosis Foundation, 143 East 45th Street, New York 16, N.Y.

If approved, the hydrocortisone will be shipped to the patient.

PLASTIC SURGERY OF FACE

The Society for the Rehabilitation of the Facially Disfigured recently established the Clinic for Reconstructive Plastic Surgery of the Face. It is located in the Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, 210 East 64th Street, New York City.

The clinic is the first in the U.S. to be devoted exclusively to the entire field of facial disfigurements including those of a congenital nature or resulting from accidents, injuries or cancer.

These are identified as cleft lip and palate abnormalities of the eyes, ears and nose, nerve defects, burns, defects of the skin, and malformations of the jaws, teeth and bones.

A group of six specialists staffs the clinic.

This type of plastic surgery, I might remind you, has no relation to the cosmetic or beautifying type of plastic surgery.

FILM ON EPILEPSY

Anyone with epilepsy, or anyone who has contact with it, probably will be interested in seeing the new dramatic motion picture presentation of epilepsy, "The Dark Wave." The picture was premiered recently in New York and will be shown throughout the country.

Produced in cooperation with the Variety Club Foundation to Combat Epilepsy, it should help greatly to clear up many unfortunate misunderstandings that exist about this disease.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

G.E.L.: I have had a cracking on the side of my lips. What is the cause?

Answer: The most common cause for cheilosis if vitamin B., or riboflavin deficiency.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TEN YEARS AGO
(September 14, 1946)

His Excellency Field Marshall the Right Honourable the Viscount Alexander of Tunis, G.C.B., Governor General of Canada, will present decorations to a number of P.E.I. servicemen, when he visits the Province the latter part of this month, it was learned Wednesday.

Officials of the Provincial Command, Canadian Legion, headed by the president J.S. Walker, Charlottetown, assisted Friday in the formation of the newest branch of the Legion on the Island, Belle River Branch No. 23.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(September 14, 1931)

In reply to a question by Coun. Foster, at today's City Council meeting, as to whether taxes had been collected from transient traders in the auction rooms, he was informed that no money had been received, but the traders had been fined $50 seven times.

It was announced that the total enrollment this year in Prince St., West Kent, Queen Square and Rochford Square schools was 2,171 pupils.

MAXIMS

Shun no toil to make yourself remarkable by some talent or other; yet do not devote yourself exclusively to one branch. Strive to get clear notions about all. Give up no science entirely; for science is but one.

ANCIENT ROUTES

A 1,700-year-old statue of Buddha has been unearthed at the site of an ancient trade centre at Lillon, Sweden.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A strange thing about a politician is that he never knows how to save the country until he is out of a job.—Edmonton Journal

Some years ago a Toronto newspaper gave a hopeful politician so much publicity that they succeeded in banishing him to oblivion. There are many who are waiting for the same fate to strike marathon swims.—Orillia Packet and Times

A convict has failed in an attempt to escape from Alcatraz because he did not know how to swim. This shows the importance of giving children swimming lessons: you never know when they will come in handy.—Stratford Beacon-Herald

The Canadian Post Office is to issue a special stamp to mark fire prevention week. Pictures indicate that it is no outstanding work of art but if it makes people more conscious of fire-prevention it is worthwhile.—Ottawa Journal

Don't look now. But the name of at least one of the Conservative candidates nominated in the B.C. election has staggered almost everyone in Ottawa, including the Tories. He's Dr. Brock Chisholm, ex-deputy Minister to Health Minister Paul Martin, former head of the World Health Organization, speechmaker deluxe who was once best known for his anti-Santa Claus campaign.—Montreal Gazette

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has sent three aircrafts to Saudi Arabia. Their job is to help in a multi-nation campaign against the desert locust. This is one form of warfare in the Middle East that will be universally approved, except perhaps by the locusts.—Ottawa Citizen

British old age pensions follow the pensioner to the ends of the earth and the end of his days. If he migrates at 65 to Tasmania, Peru or the Yukon the cheques continue to flow and don't stop until the death certificate is issued. Canadian old age pensions should be payable in the same way because they too are now based on the principle of contribution.—Financial Post

Members of a Russian soccer team, now visiting Canada, were taken to watch an exhibition football game in Montreal the other night. They watched Regina and Montreal play, and were described as confused at first, and then plain bored. We can't say we blame the Russians one bit. The game of football in Canada, which was once called rugby and was a good name, has become so changed that a horseshoe pitching match is more exciting.—St. Catherines Standard

Commercial carriers have taken over our highways, which were certainly not created solely for them, for the purposes of their business and without any special indemnity being levied upon them apart from the usual truck licence fees. They ruin the surfaces of those highways and ignore the speed laws which all other drivers break at their peril. The situation must be correct and the onus is directly upon the provincial officials concerned.—Kingston Whig-Standard

In an age of aircraft crossing the skies like whistling bullets, Canada still has no cross-country automobile highway. A coast-to-coast artery which the federal government undertook to build in cooperation with the provinces in 1949, lags four years behind the target date for completion. Ottawa has raised its share of the cost to a quarter of a billion dollars but the earliest possible completion date cannot be drawn nearer than the end of 1960.—Hamilton Spectator

Trade Minister Howe has been invited to visit Russia. Bulgy and Krushy want to see a man who put across that Trans-Canada pipeline deal.—Sarnia Observer

Lower motor cars are predicted for 1957, and worms, snakes and bugs which plan to be out walking on the highways had better practice scrunching down.—Winnipeg Free Press.

The apex of the pyramid of tomfoolery has been reached by a Park Avenue, New York, poodle parlor that offers hair-styling and mother-daughter outfits for the canine smart set. Obviously, there are people who don't bear their fair share of this world's responsibilities.—Hamilton Spectator

General Omar Bradley (retired) says the United States would surely lose a war that was not settled in a few days. Considering the power of modern weapons any "next" war may be settled in a matter of hours, providing the aggressor gets that fustest with the mostest.—Brantford Expositor

A youth caught in the act of stealing from a poor box in a church, was given by a Connecticut judge the choice of going to the same church every Sunday for a year, or going to jail for 30 days. It is an unusual judgement, but let not an editorial question the workings of the judicial mind. It is pertient merely to say that the inference that attending church is a form of penance will be questioned by some church-goers, who attend church joyfully, grateful for the privilege and the opportunity.—Cape Breton Post

To help keep spending in check, the Federal Government has made the new Canda Savings Bonds particularly attractive. The 13 interest payments will rise by stages to a 4 per cent rate, with the average yield to maturity 3.76 per cent. That is a pretty good return on this type of investment. Thrifty citizens in large numbers will be putting money aside from now until October 15, when the new bonds go on sale, in order to make a sizeable initial purchase.—Ottawa Citizen

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The Dickens you say...

Maybe Charles Dickens was gazing into a crystal — or aluminum — ball when he made this prediction a century ago about a strange new metal called aluminum. He wrote:

"What do you think of metal as white as silver, as unalterable as gold, as easily melted as copper, as tough as iron? . . . In proportion as the cheap production of aluminum becomes more and more an established fact, the more we shall find it entering into household uses — for travelling purposes, for instance, for which its lightness is no small merit."

Very good, Charles — especially that bit about cheap production. That day has arrived, as Alcan's vast production and world sales prove.

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- Quieter, easier riding
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