The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

The Old Problem

According to a Canadian Press story, drivers in Calgary who celebrate too well on Christmas Eve, and who feel they can't navigate properly, have been invited to call the police and an officer will be sent to drive them home. Police in Quebec City offer a similar service, while police in Saint John, N.B., are considering re-introducing it. They started one two years ago, but only had one customer.

Elsewhere, however, there is less inclination to show a paternal concern for Christmas Eve drunks. They are, manifestively, a menace to taffic; but is that any reason why they should get special consideration at the taxpayers' expense? A cross-Canada survey shows that the RCMP and most provincial forces will have extra patrols on the highways during Christmas and New Year's holidays, and plan to enforce the law strictly.

Many police chiefs are urging party hosts to serve coffee before guests leave, and to make sure they are in a fit state to drive. Police are also asking drinking drivers to take taxis instead of using their own cars. But the real deterrent will be the strong arm of the law. If people must drink and drive, they should be taught that it is a dangerous thing to do.

The Canadian Highway Safety Council has predicted a traffic death toll of 58 for the five-day Christmas period from 6 p.m. Friday to midnight next Wednesday. In the same period last year the toll was 53. Perhaps these figures, prominently displayed wherever liquor is served and drunk, would have a sobering effect on all concerned. Perhaps not. The trouble is that those who need the warning most are the least likely to heed its significance. We can only hope that, with the help of sounder heads, their depredations on the highways will be kept at a minimum. If we could set an example here in this respect, it would be a proud day for the Province.

Britain's Concern

Prime Minister Macmillan has failed in his efforts to persuade President Kennedy to continue work on the Skybolt ballistic missile, which could be fired from the wing of a bomber 1,000 miles from target, and has had to accept, as a substitute, the 1,800-mile Polaris missile designed primarily for atomic submarines.

To appreciate Britain's position in this controversy, let us remember that of all the Western European Allies of the United States today, Britain is the only one which remained free and unconquered during the Second World War. There was a time, indeed, when she stood alone against the forces of aggression. When the military power of the United States began to operate in the European theatre it was from the base of Britain. There were then only two Western Allies who counted and their operations were both directed at the Continent from the British Isles. This led naturally to a unified command.

Inter-Allied relations in that combined command resulted in the establishment of the combined Joint Chiefs of Staff at Washington, and the sharing of nuclear secrets to which the British were entitled for their major contribution to the war and to the original work on the first successful nuclear bomb. This co-partnership deteriorated under the Truman regime, and the process of deterioration has been going on ever since. Former U.S. Secretary of State Acheson summed up the American viewpoint recently when he said that the "special relationship" between the two countries, in military defense, was just about played out.

The cancellation of the Skybolt program does not damage the American deterrent, because the United States has now many weapons system. It does, however, threaten to put the British Bomber Command out of business, and hence to reduce Britain's stature within the Western alliance. In terms of speed and ability to select targets, the submarine is no substitute for the plane; but it is what Britain must rely on primarily in accepting the Polaris missile. And, according to British commentators, British-built submarines could not be produced to carry Polaris until 1972.

The joint communique issued at Nassau passes lightly over this issue. But it is not Britain's habit to cry over spilt milk. She will make the best she can of the new arrangement, which purportedly aims at strengthening the NATO alliance by permitting both Britain and France to have a form of nuclear deterrent, for which President de Gaulle has been clamoring.

Canada's Part

The recent Paris meeting of NATO council ministers was preceded by some of the bluntest talk ever exchanged between allies. There was pointed reference to the inadequate support given by several countries to the NATO defense forces in Europe. None of this criticism, however, was directed at Canada. Our contribution, of more than 12,000 servicemen in Europe at a cost amounting to $10 a head annually for every Canadian, won praise, not criticism.

Indeed, Mr. MacNamara, the U.S. Defense Secretary, said that only the 400,000 American troops and the Canadian brigade are "combat ready." And the NATO military committee commended the Canadian forces for "a consistently high state of readiness" and noted with gratification recent increases in strength, including a surface-to-surface missile battery.

These commendations are particularly to be welcomed in view of the complaint made last month by the retiring NATO commander, General Norstad, that deficiencies were so serious that an unnecessary risk in the defense of Europe was being taken. This led to a question in the House of Commons and Mr. Harkness, the Defence Minister, was able to say with pride that the goals for the Canadian forces in Europe had been met. His words have now been fully substantiated.

EDITORIAL NOTES

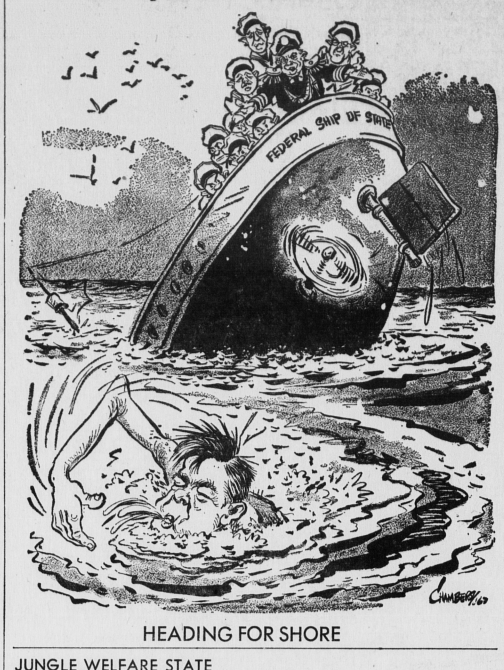
The scientific approach to motor vehicle accidents is yielding unexpected results. At an Illinois university traffic institute it was found that some car fatalities are actually concealed suicides; and at Harvard it was found that a driver probably struck a pedestrian on a dark street because he had not taken a pill for his diabetes at the proper time. Without the pill's beneficial effects, his eyesight was subnormal.

* * *

Hon. Ellen Fairclough, former Minister of Citizenship and now Postmaster General in the Federal Cabinet, has other claims to distinction. The other day she was made Chief Eagle Woman of the Blackfoot tribe at a ceremony 55 miles east of Calgary. It was the first time a white woman had been made an honorary chief of the proud Blackfoot. She previously was made Princess Bright Flower by the Mohawk tribe.

* * *

An instrument that will warn a blind person of obstacles in his path has been invented in the United States. It works by radar and emits a series of short sounds when supersonic vibrations are reflected by an object, but remains silent when the path is clear. The user hears the sound on earphones. While the prototype is still too large and heavy to be practical, it is believed that the device can soon be perfected.



HEADING FOR SHORE

JUNGLE WELFARE STATE

Oil - Rich Brunei Poses Problems

National Geographic News Bulletin

Armed uprisings in Brunei, on the island of Borneo, spotlight one of the world's richest jungle sultanates.

Sandwiched between Sarawak and North Borneo, Brunei covers 2,226 square miles of swamp and jungle. Sultan Sir Omar Ali Saifuddin rules the Delaware-size state, though Great Britain is responsible for foreign affairs, security, and defense.

It is this British control that nationalist insurgents are resisting.

Oil deposits along its South China Sea coastline have given Brunei enormous wealth for its size. The Seria oilfield is the largest producer in the British Commonwealth, next to those of Canada.

TRAFFIC JAMS

The capital, Brunei Town, once a cluster of ramshackle huts, now has concrete-glass office buildings, paved roads, and traffic jams. An Oriental shopping center sells automatic washers and hi-fi sets. A new, golden-domed mosque with marble walls is equipped with floodlights and an express elevator to the top of the 200-foot-high minaret.

Oil revenues — $40 million annually — support an extensive welfare system for the country's 84,000 people. Pensions are given to the aged, infirm, insane, blind, orphans, and widows. The state provides free schooling and hospital care. There is almost no personal taxation.

Malaria, once a scourge in this land of sluggish, crocodile-infested streams, has been virtually eliminated.

Malays and Chinese form the bulk of Brunei's population; most live in and about the capital. Some homes are on stilts in the suburb of Kampong Ayer, the "water village" begun when early settlers decided it was easier to build over the water than to clear the jungle. Boardwalks and swaying bridges connect the maze of stilted houses, shops, and mosques. Some old people are believed never to have set foot on land.

Brunei's prosperity reaches beyond the capital. A Dyak fisherman, descendant of the headhunting "wild men of Borneo," now climbs into his primitive dugout canoe, glances at his waterproof wristwatch, yanks the starter cord on his outboard motor, and whooshes upstream in a spray of foam. About 1,000 outboard motors are sold annually.

TWO GOLDEN AGES

Today may be Brunei's Golden Age, but it is not the country's first. In the early 16th century, Brunei sultans ruled all of Borneo, the world's third largest island. Her war canoes spread terror from Java to the Philippines. Magellan's chronicler, Pigafetta, in 1521 called old Brunei Town "this greatest ever of Malay cities, rich in wealth and proud in bearing."

Gradually Brunei's power and holdings shrank. By 1888, Brunei was reduced to an improverished coastal patch under British control. The discovery of oil in 1929 revived and transformed the primitive land of fishermen and farmers.

Yet not everything is up-to-date. In Brunei's interior valleys, Dusun peasants toil with age-old implements in rain-soaked paddies. In the forests, half-naked Ibans worship spirits and hunt with blow guns and poisoned arrows.

During the recent uprisings, Brunei authorities sent out out canoes carrying the traditional call for help — red feathers in hollow bamboo sticks.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

MR. WHEATLEY REPLIES

Sir, — Mr. Heeney's letter grasping at straws to overcome his unsatisfactory relations with farmers producing peas, seems to bear out the often repeated statements in Federation of Agriculture meetings that better public relations in the Frosted Foods plant could be in order. However, space in the Public Forum, for which I am very grateful, won't permit a full answering of these many untrue statements; but rather I will point out a few.

I had no contract to grow peas or to clean his plant during 1961, therefore any reference by him to either is untrue. When I grew 17 acres peas that year I lost $83 and he knows it, but this loss does not cover fertilizer, lime, rent, taxes, etc., to say nothing of one's time; and this loss came about by their broken-down harvesting equipment. Soil condition does not enter the picture, as beans were grown for his plant the previous year before I acquired the land.

The External Auditor's report, 1960, shows P.E.I. Frosted Foods getting $66,007 of free taxpayers' money. Ignorance of facts, as claimed by Mr. Heeney, seem untrue.

I had four years' experience working with my men and trucks in and around his plant. This information is available to any Government study committee, or special committee recently set up at the Federation of Agriculture meeting. Had Mr. Heeney published his letter sooner, instead of waiting nearly three weeks, I would have outlined some of these problems at the Federation meeting.

If Mr. Heeney knows everything about growing peas and soil conditions, it seems strange that he ploughed down, in October, two fields of peas that went wild with weeds and could not be harvested.

I am, Sir, etc.,
WOODROW WHEATLEY

Oil in Brunei's interior valleys, Dusun peasants toil with age-old implements in rainsoaked paddies. In the forests, half-naked Ibans worship spirits and hunt with blow guns and poisoned arrows.

The Poet's Corner

HIS BIRTHDAY—1962
A Carol for the Space Age

The cake is glowing
Splendor-shining;
'Tis the world
Before Him placed.
All its peoples, sparkling
throngs,
Sing their separate Birthday
songs.
The glory of the Lord diffuses
Through the vast irradiate
spheres;
But the candles all have fuses—
Only the breath of God
Can put them
Out.

—William H. Doucette,
Rollo Bay and Charlottetown.

SAYS CREDIT PLANNED

BERLIN (AP)—A West Berlin newspaper reported Wednesday that Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's government has agreed to grant the Communist East German regime a credit of $250,000,000 The Spandauer Volksblatt said the credit would be repaid by deliveries of various exports during a five-year period.

Holiday Hazards Need Watching

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

MOST BABIES are more interested in milk and sleep than in Christmas trees. They are too young to appreciate or get excited over their first yuletide. The best present you can give them is to continue business as usual.

Serve their meals on time and respect that imaginary sign, "quiet — baby sleeping." There is no harm in letting Junior look at the bright lights and showing him off during wakeful periods. But put him back in the crib when there are signs of restlessness or irritability. He'll sleep better and so will the parents.

Older babies are likely to be enamored of the Christmas tree, especially if they can crawl or walk. This is the age of curiosity and the period when an infant reaches for any attractive object. He wants to taste it, drop it, and so after something else.

It is unfair to the toddler or creeper to have so much glitter that cannot be touched. Put the tree on a table to avoid frustration and a barrage of no-nos. Let him up now and then and let tim touch the tree. Select a branch having a decoration that can be pulled off.

A table tree may be inadequate when there are older children in the household. It is here that a play pen is a godsend; set it up in the living room so that the baby can join the fun.

Several Christmas holiday hazards ought to be mentioned to avert tragedy at this time of gaiety. Bubbling lights containing a small amount of methylene chloride. Swallowing the contents of one light is not likely to be lethal but may produce drowsiness or excitement. Large amounts are definitely poisonous. Icicle decorations and angel hair may lead to severe irritation when swallowed. Mistletoe and holly berries contain a toxin; keep them away from the smallfry.

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

HEART CHANGES

A.F.N. writes: Will an electrocardiogram show a heart murmur?

REPLY

No. The electrocardiograph is a machine that detects the electrical waves that stimulate the auricles and ventricles to contract. These waves follow definite pathways and produce a typical pattern on the electrocardiogram. Changes in the heart muscle are easily detected because the wave must detour around the area. Alterations in rhythm also are noted, and it is here that the machine is at its best. Murmurs do not show up but these abnormal heart sounds can be detected via a stethoscope.

RARE TRENCH MOUTH

F.H. writes: What causes trench mouth? What are the symptoms? Is there a cure.

REPLY

This contagious condition is caused by Vincent's spirochetes and fusiform bacilli. It is rarely seen nowadays but in the past occurred chiefly in adults under conditions associated with malnutrition and overcrowding. Ragged ulcers develop on the gums, lips, and inner side of the cheeks. The infection responds quickly to penicillin.

FOOD UTILIZATION

C.P. writes: What is a metabolic disease?

REPLY

Metabolism refers to the changes occurring in the body through the utilization of the foods and fluids taken. Alterations in this natural process constitute diseases of metabolism. Among the most widely known metabolic diseases are gout, diabetes, and obesity.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

The emotions can disturb the intestines.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The reason a man can't get anywhere arguing with a woman is that she asks so many embarrassing questions he can't afford to answer. — Sentinel Review.

A Canadian-born Chicago University professor had told the Canadian Club of Toronto that Canada's exaggerated feeling of importance in the world has curdled into anti-Americanism On the other hand, we are constantly being told by other professors from various countries, including our own, that we lack sufficient "national identity" and are not assertive enough. So which story are you going to accept? — Brantford Expositor.

Rubber pacifiers for babies are hard to find in Russia and once upon a time in Canada they were regarded as almost in the category of illicit drugs. Babies were expected to cry for exercise and could have nothing between meal times. — Ottawa Journal.

Nothing irritates husbands and wives so much, after several years of marriage, as to have some tactless old friend remind them of their clandestine meetings, their passionate letters, their frenzy of impatience, in their engagement days, to belong to each other. — New York Times.

With Many Tongues

Gord Haborn in Aims of Industry

A Wiltshire and a Northumberland farmer, both English, might well not understand each other. This was revealed recently in a London conference held by Professor Harold Orton, of Leeds University, who has been conducting an 11-year study of dialects throughout England.

He and his team of eight men and a woman found that there were 20 different local pronunciations for the word "cow" and 15 for "home."

They also discovered that when a Kent agricultural worker speaks of his progger or lower he means a snack. In Norfolk or Suffolk it's called docky; in Gloucestershire, tenses or tommy. Other variations: (haggings around Manchester), bait (North and West County), beaver (Hertfordshire), erib (Cornwall and Devon), and additional expressions in Kent, lowen, drinkings, drum-up's, mining, nammets, nineses, and nunch.

The survey was centred on country people, rather than city folk, in 311 localities to further the compilation of a linguistic atlas of England as originally suggested by the late Dr. Eugen Dieth, professor of English language at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. It was first planned in 1946, but took five years of work in shaping a comprehensive list of over 1,000 test questions.

From the 40 countries visited by the researchers came 34 words for that little water creature the newt, including: askel, azgel, naskgel, effet, aivet, fourlegged emmet, mowt, ewt, padgetty, poll, tiddly-winks, watereff and yolt.

Professor Orton insists that nationwide television and radio have not killed off local dialects, as indeed the study proves.

"We have many hundreds of dialects in Britain, some we haven't yet discovered," he says. "If some are dying out, others are taking their place." But they die out because people die," he said. "This is why we concentrated chiefly on the over-60s, to put their dialects on record before the 30-year-olds come along with their new ones.

Initial publication of the series covers Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and the Isle of Man. Sixteen more volumes are to come.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
December 22, 1937

The Christmas meeting of the Maritime Women's Club was held at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal round a Christmas tree loaded with gifts for the needy. Dr. Alfred Whitehead, and the choir of Christ Church Cathedral provided the musical side while Dr. Whitehead gave a short talk on carols - old and new.

The newly organized Little Theatre Guild at Summerside presented their initial plays last week in St. Mary's Hall to a membership of 75. His Worship Mayor Robinson presided and congratulated the Guild on their choice of plays and their successful presentation.

TEN YEARS AGO
December 22, 1952

A P. E. I. Branch of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada is in the organizational stage with approximately 75 eligible members. It was announced here yesterday by R. C. Parent, superintendent of the Experimental Farm. Named president of the Branch is Mr. Parent, C. W. Currie as vice president, and George Ayers, secretary-treasurer.

Under the new reorganization of the administrative setup of the Canadian Army in Korea, Lieut.-Col. Leith R. Crue of Summerside will remain at his job of administrating the Canadian lines of communications, but will be given a different title.

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New Year's Eve Ball
at the
Charlottetown Hotel
Music by
"The Combo Five"
featuring
Audrey Gillis at the piano
with
Elmer Gallant—Tenor Saxophone
Jackie Blanchard—Trumpet
Keith Robinson—Guitar
Jim Coady—Drums
DANCING FROM 10 P.M.
Supper served
From midnight to 2 A.M.
Make your table reservations early
$10.00 per couple
Call 4-7371—Number limit to 80 couples
Tickets must be picked up by
December 29th.
Season's Greetings To One and All

THE TELEPHONE HOUR
Christmas Program
JANE WYATT, Hostess
Starring FLORENCE HENDERSON
EARL WRIGHTSON
THE ROGER WAGNER CHORALE
MILDRED MILLER · THE BUFFALO BILLS
ROBERTA LUBELL · MICHAEL MAULE
With DONALD VOORHEES and the
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