The Guardian
Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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Mr. Douglas' Visit

The visit at this time of Hon. T. C. Douglas, national leader of the New Democratic Party, is naturally not unconnected with political issues; but regardless of politics he is a welcome visitor at any time, and on this, his second visit since resigning as head of the Saskatchewan CCF Government and stepping into his new role as NDP leader, he will be seeing something of our winter conditions at first hand, and getting a better perspective of our transportation problems generally.

In the wake of the departure of Mr. Hazen Argue from CCF-NDP ranks, Mr. Douglas' campaign has attracted added interest. Conservatives make no secret of the fact that they would like to see him fight it out in Mr. Argue's riding of Assiniboia—a wish which, no doubt, is fostered by the hope that they might split the vote to enable a Tory candidate to sneak in between them and leave both out in the cold. But Mr. Douglas is a wary strategist, and such a campaign, though possible, seems unlikely.

We don't think for a moment that Mr. Douglas would be afraid of such a fight—he is as spunky an opponent as any man would care to tangle with—but such a contest would tie him down locally and restrict his national campaigning. He may feel, also, that it would add to Mr. Argue's stature as a politician in an unwarranted fashion. Mr. Douglas has been offered the nomination in three or four different Saskatchewan constituencies, and is said to have his eye primarily on the Regina seat. According to an Ottawa commentator, he is holding back there out of deference to the man who ran in 1958 as CCF candidate and may want to try again. Mr. Douglas has stated he has no intention of squeezing him out or anybody else who wants to run.

In any case, his visit here will be to give support to his party's local candidates and also to discuss issues of broader concern, as he did at the United Nations Club last evening. As one of Canada's public figures, he possesses a comprehensive knowledge of all aspects of governing affairs in this country, and in many others too. Few speakers match him in his audience appeal, and we trust that full opportunity will be taken of hearing him at all his public appearances in our midst.

Disturbing Statements

In speaking on the Draft Address in the Legislature last week, Premier Shaw took occasion to refer to a speech given by the national Liberal party leader, Mr. Pearson, at a recent federal nominating convention in Quebec East. The Premier rightly pointed out that this speech is of concern to our taxpayers in this province as well as in other parts of Canada, as indicative of Liberal policy trends.

Mr. Pearson, in his Quebec speech, explained what his party intended to do, if elected, in applying the principle of equalization to federal-provincial affairs. It would mean, he emphasized, an increase of $150,000,000 for Quebec in the next five year period. The federal government should "withdraw from the field of joint programs which are of a permanent character once these programs are well established across the country."

This proposal, according to Mr. Pearson, applied "more particularly in the field of social security." In place of its financial contributions to such programs the federal government would substitute a policy of "more leeway" to the provinces in the field of direct taxation. Already several of these joint programs could be abandoned "almost immediately"; others, not yet sufficiently established, would be reviewed in this light every five years.

Such a system would not mean that the Liberal party would refrain from bringing forward new joint programs in the future. It would mean, however, that "from now on, joint programs which require a permanent and fairly regular expenditure would not last any more than five years before being turned over entirely to the provinces."

Other aspects of Mr. Pearson's Quebec speech were noted by Premier Shaw, such as his pledge "to give our country a distinctive Canadian flag" and to adopt "O Canada" as "our national anthem." It was the Liberal leader's proposals for scrapping federal contributions to the social security programs, however, that the Premier was most critical of. Such a scheme might be acceptable in the larger central provinces; but even with the addition of equalization grants to keep provincial costs down, it would be a disastrous policy for Prince Edward Island.

Premier Shaw read from the official text of Mr. Pearson's remarks to avoid the chance of them being misquoted. They are disturbing in their implications, to say the least. We simply could not afford to finance social security programs out of direct taxation here, and Mr. Pearson's local supporters should lose no time in making him aware of this fact.

U.S. Farm Program

Growing opposition to the Kennedy administration's new farm bill is noted in the New York Times. The American Farm Bureau Federation, with headquarters in Chicago, is planning meetings to "alert" farmers and consumers throughout the country and is intensifying its lobbying activities in Washington. This organization has a membership of 1,600, 000 families, and is the largest farm group in the country. Its efforts last year were instrumental in defeating the government's proposal to give the Secretary of Agriculture more power in initiating legislation to control agricultural production in surplus supply, and its officials regard the new program as "even worse" than last year's.

It is claimed that the new bill gives the Secretary the "power to club the farmer's brains out"; that the referendums offered to dairy, wheat and feed grain farmers is a "mockery", that for consumers it would mean higher food prices in the long run because it would prevent competition, and that a "huge army of government supervisors" would be needed to enforce compliance. This year it is proposed to apply similar controls to livestock, fruit and vegetables.

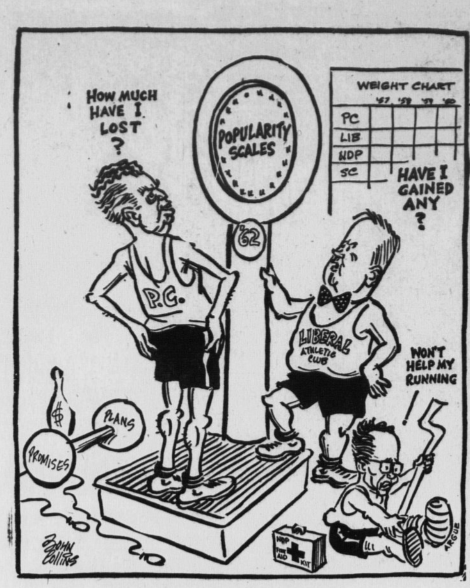
Other farm organizations, such as the National Grange and National Farmers Union—considerably smaller than the Farm Bureau—are expected to support most of the Kennedy program. But the Farm Bureau opposition will be hard to lick. It controls a lot of votes, and it has a team of specialists at work in its Washington bureau, preparing data for the state and country bureaus throughout the country to make their views known to Congress. It will be interesting to watch the results. The program at this distance would appear to be well framed to cope with the surplus food problem, but its promoters have evidently failed in selling its advantages to the country.

EDITORIAL NOTES

That report that the "last of the professional mourners" had died must have been wrong, says the Ottawa Journal. With an eye to a recent sensational event it claims that "old professional mourners never die. They just join the Liberals."

* * *

Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey was one of the 10 distinguished Canadians honored by the Canada Council for outstanding work in the arts, humanities and social sciences. This was most fitting. One of the roles for which the former governor-general will be remembered is that of chairman of a royal commission whose recommendations led to the formation of the Canada Coucil.



OTTAWA FITNESS CAMPAIGN

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

A $200 Million Annual Business

One of the most consistent critics of the Conservative government is 54-year old Azellus Denis, a Montreal lawyer who has sat in Parliament as a Liberal M.P. for exactly half his lifetime.

Mr. Denis' favourite and only target is Postmaster General W. M. Hamilton; his shafts concern inefffciencies and robberies in post offices, and what he evidently considers the childlike vanity of Postmaster Hamilton.

The record of poor service and rising costs gives Mr. denis ample ammunition; but he has yet to strike the gold which lies in our Public Accounts, showing that pre-Hamilton surpluses of about $8 million, $10 million and $6 million in the years 1955-57 have dwindled sadlyt o become a $5 million deficit last year, in the operations of our Post Office.

BARBED HUMOUR

Mr. Denis threw one of his typical curves at Mr. Hamilton on the later's birthday last week. Wishing him the happiest birthday ever, he added: "His work is very burdensome, involving as it does extensive travelling, scooter driving, pen nib changing, and so forth. For his own good I wish him a long, healthy from politics after the next election." To which Mr. Hamilton replied ambiguously: "I presume my very existence proves that there is something that sometimes comes from playing post office."

But in spite of those motor scooters, and the replacement of steel nibs with ball-points; and in spite of higher wage bills largely caused by huge additions to the army of letter-carriers; the service deteriorates. And in spite of a 20 per cent increase in revenue during his four years as postmaster, a $6 million surplus on post office operations has sunk into a $5 million loss.

The time of letter deliveries makes it very clear that Mr. Hamilton does not seek to emulate Shakespeare's Puck, who said "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes." Nor does he match Cosmonaut Glenn, who girdled the eaath in 89 minutes.

In fact the Hamilton delivery service this morning brought me a letter which had taken 64 hours to travel one mile across Ottawa, slower than the U.S. post office took to carry a letter from New York, or the British post office to fly a letter from England, both delivered at the same time as that Ottawa tortoise which moved at one-half millionth of Glenn's speed, or less than two feet per minute.

AS CANADA GROWS

Our Post Office today is a $200 million annual business, seven times the size it was a quarter of a century ago. Typically today postal service in Toronto costs $17 million a year and in Montreal $16 million, these two cities alone exceeding the annual $30 million cost of the whole of Canada in 1936.

Mr. Denis is an assiduous collector of complaints about the Post Office. Recently we have heard his plea that an effort be made to deliver Easter Greetings in time, in contrast to many Christmas greetings in Montreal which were delayed. We heard his criticism that 6,000 letters lay forgotten in a collection box for two weeks. But Postmaster Hamilton nevertheless reports that there has been a steady decrease in the number of public complaints about our postal service over the past several years.

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.

SUMMERSIDE AFFAIRS

Sir,—Due to other more newsworthy events which occurred at the last meeting of the Summerside town council the petition on Mr. D.J. Mullin did not get the attention which it justly deserved.

The petition protested against the increase in the property qualification for mayor from $1,000,00 to $4,000.00 and for town councillors from $1,000.00 to $3,000.00.

I agree whole heartedly with the petitioners.

To increase the property qualification as suggested is highly undemocratic and is against present day practice and goes back to the thinking which prevailed one hundred years ago.

During the recent election campaign numerous complaints were made to the effect that there was a dearth of candidates available for the office of mayor and for town councillors.

If the proposed amendment passes the candidates available will be materially reduced in number and further similar amendments could limit the choice to a much smaller group.

Another important development should not be forgotten and that is that more and more of the real estate in the town is passing into the hands of corporations.

When the Hillcrest development is completed there will be at least fifteen hundred persons, many of whom might otherwise be qualified for the office of mayor or town councillor and all of whom will pay taxes to the town in some form or other; but none of whom could qualify for the office of mayor or town councillor.

I think that the mayor and council would be well advised to reconsider the proposed amendment.

I am, Sir, etc.,
J. WATSON MacNAUGHT.

A TRIBUTE

Sir,—With the death of Miss. Amy Earle this city and Province have lost the last member of a beloved family, whose residence on West Street was truly a Christian home, the head of which was Professor Samuel Earle a gentleman of the old school, a music Professor and organist at the Anglican Parish Church of St. Paul for many years. The good qualities of life lived up to by this beloved family will continue to have an influence on all who knew them.

I am Sir, etc.,
KENNETH BRUCE STEWART.

In Northern Rhodesia

By Carol Kennedy
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The new constitution for Northern Rhodesia, announced in London Wednesday by Colonial Secretary Reginald Maudling, makes it possible for Negro Nationalists to govern the copper-rich member of the Central African Federation.

But the system of cross-voting embedded in the proposals is designed to ensure truly multi-racial support for whatever government is elected. So it looks as though Federation Prime Minister Sir Roy Welensky's fears for an extremist government may not be justified.

On the other hand, the Nationalists themselves, led by Kenneth Kaunda, are sure to feel the new proposals do not go far enough in their favor. Kaunda' first reaction was that they "dodget he issue" of electing a representative Northern Rhodesian government for some 2,500,000 Negroes and only 77,000 whites in the protectorate.

The nub of the constitution, and the issue that has provoked a year-long controversy, is the block of 15 "National" seats, sandwiched between the upper roll — 15 members elected by whites, Asians and a small proportion of qualified Negroes—and the lower roll of 15, elected by the Negro voters.

MULTI-RACIAL APPEAL

To gain one of these National seats, a candidate will have to get at least 10 per cent of the vote of each race—Negro and white — and must therefore make his electoral appeal genuinely multi-racial.

Under the present proposals, this means a white candidate requires about 1,000 Negro votes from his constituency—a Negro 220 white votes.

It is obviously a fairer arrangement than last June's redrafting to Welensky's wishes, which would have made it necessary for a Negro to get 400 white votes, an almost impossible task for a Nationalist.

But the Nationalists object that the only Negroes likely to be supported at all by white voters are the moderates of the white-led United Federal party, whom Kaunda's men regard as mere stooges of Welensky's federal government.

CHANCES REDUCED

Certainly Nationalist chances of wooing white voters have diminished since the uprisings of last August, sparked by what Kaunda's party regarded as Britain's betrayal under pressure from Welensky.

Kaunda was then in a difficult position and may have been forced by the more extreme men jockeying for power behind him. But the violence that resulted left Northern Rhodesia's white settlers angry and frightened.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Mar. 5, 1937)

Ten Provincial Champion curling rinks are playing this week at the Toronto Granite Club in the eleventh annual Macdonald Brier Tankard round-robin competition and the Canadian single-rink championship. Those making up the team from Charlottetown, P.E.I. are W. W. Lord, E. L. Miles, P. S. Cobb and A. Belcher.

Specials this week at the Nobena Tea Room are, full course goose and chicken served from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. or from 5:30 to 8. Teacup reading weekdays from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Mar. 5, 1952)

A Dining-in Night was held in the Officers Mess, RCAF Station, Summerside, Monday evening, at which W-C, A.M. Jardine, W-C, W. C. Sanderson, S-L W. Davis, Mr. Langlois and Mr. Rhude, of the Visiting Establishing Committee from Training Command Headquarters, Trenton, Ontario were the guests.

Mr. J. Watson MacNaught, M.P. accompanied by Mrs. MacNaught and son David left recently by plane for Windsor, Ont. en route to Ottawa, where they will take up residence during the session of parliament.

Scientists Try To Find Solution Of Genetic Code

B.Y Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Scientists are working night and day to decipher the genetic code, to which we owe our origin and continuity of life. It all hinges on the way two chemicals transfer information from one generation to another and how specific molecules are arranged to form sons and daughters with the characteristics of their father and mother. In other words, we are dealing with the secret of life and what masterminds the events that follow fertilization of the ovum.

The code centers about the behavior of two chemicals DNA and RNA). One makes up the blueprints of the future child; the other acts as the contractor and tells the cells what to do. Most of the messages go to the proteins, the basic material of life.

Every cell has a nucleus that looks like a small circle within the cell. The chromosomes and genes are located within the nucleus; they are paired and one set comes from the mother and the other from the father. Every cell in the body contains these elements along with a complete copy of the blueprint of the hereditary characteristics. This is fantastic because the fertilized ovum is destined to reproduce trillions of cells—all containing a message telling them what to do.

The hereditary plan or mold in the cell nucleus is desoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). It consists of intertwined strands containing molecules with chains of four protein units or bases. The order in which these bases are arranged determines how the 20 different proteins (amino acids) outside the nucleus will be arranged.

The trick is how to relay the genetic message to these proteins. It is here that the second chemical, rebonucleic acid (RNA), enters the picture. Molecules of RNA are sent out by DNA into the cell where they pick up the amino acids. These form the proteins that control the metabolism of the cell.

The question is, how does RNA know which amino acid to select? The code is the answer. This is highly technical but centers about the arrangement of the four bases that are strung along the backbones of the RNA and DNA molecules. It is a matching process and whenever three bases out of four fit perfectly, the genes go into action and development proceeds.

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

GOOSE PIMPLES

P.R. writes: Why do some persons get goose pimples and others don't?

REPLY

Goose flesh is a normal occurrence when the skin is chilled or stroked or during certain emotional disturbances. Some individuals are more sensitive than others and develop the phenomenon more easily. The bumps are formed by contraction of the muscles surrounding the skin capillaries. Their attached ends protrude and produce the familiar goose flesh.

NO SALT WITH CORTISONE

A.D. writes: Why is salt not permitted when taking cortisone? My doctor is giving me this medicine for bronchial asthma.

REPLY

Because cortisone encourages the retention of salt and fluid in the tissues, leading to puffiness (edema) and gain in weight. Waterlogging is discouraged by limiting the salt intake.

SORE BACK

C.M.C. writes: Would an obese man with arthritis of the spine get relief by reducing?

REPLY

Yes, providing the excess weight is creating a strain on the back.

NICOTINE AND ULCER

P. R. writes: A man with ulcer has been advised not to smoke cigars. Is it all right to chew them?

REPLY

No. Decide now that tobacco is not for you.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—...
Watch that tub, Bub.

The Age Old Story

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SENDS SYMPATHY

OTTAWA (CP)—Prime Minister Diefenbaker Saturday sent a message to Yugoslavia President Tito extending the "deepest sympathy" of the Canadian government and people to families of 54 miners killed last Tuesday in a coal mine disaster at Banovici in central Yugoslavia.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Don't depend upon the theory that if you give a person enough rope he will hang himself. The chances are that, instead, he will hogtie you. — Galt Reporter.

A Hollywood production crew is thinking of using a North Norwegian fjord as a setting for scenes in a film based on James Michener's "Hawaii." So much for that new "motion picture realism." — Hamilton Spectator.

"There's a fellow here who says there's one bad thing about a vacation. He can't enjoy a coffee break when he takes it on his own time." — Montreal Star.

We read that the life expectancy of Canadian men is 67.6 years, of Canadian women 72.9 years. Women complain that they haven't all the rights and opportunities men have, but those they do have they have longer. — Ottawa Journal.

Nuclear Arms Policy

Ottawa Citizen

Mr. Diefenbaker has again evaded the question of nuclear weapons for Canada's armed forces. In a statement made at Edmonton, the Prime Minister said Canada's forces would be armed with nuclear weapons in the event of war.

By implication, Canada would have no nuclear weapons until war broke out because, as Mr. Diefenbaker said, this country does not want to do anything to hurt disarmament negotiations.

In the Commons yesterday, Mr. Diefenbaker did little to clarify the government's position, merely adding that nuclear weapons in Canada would have to be under joint U.S.-Canada control—a policy stated before.

But he also said in Edmonton that he had read a recent report that nuclear warheads could be made available within half-an-hour, and that there was some credence to this report.

If he was talking about weapons in Canada, it may therefore be supposed that nuclear warheads will be stored on Canadian soil, to be inserted in the missiles for which they are designed should war come. It is hard to conceive of any other way in which Canadian forces could obtain nuclear warheads within the brief period mentioned by Mr. Diefenbaker.

The Prime Minister's statement that Canada's armaments will not have nuclear warheads except in case of actual war may therefore be technically accurate, but entirely misleading in the larger sense.

It only adds to the confusion over Canada's nuclear weapons policy, which appears on the surface at least to be one of acquiring and storing nuclear arms while maintaining the fiction that the country does not have these weapons.

Question Of Lotteries

Montreal Gazette

The hope that a public lottery would provide the answer to the problem of raising public revenue has been a persistent one. Over the years proposals have been made that a lottery would provide the funds for such varied aims as welfare projects, a subway, or municipal revenues.

The experience of those governments that have established lotteries in other countries has not been encouraging. From the monetary point of view, lotteries have proved to be poor ways of raising funds. France suspended its state lotteries in 1938, after operating them for five years. It had found that only 3¼ per cent of the total receipts remained to enrich the treasury.

OTHER LOTTERIES

Experience with other lotteries, though showing a higher proportion of receipts, is still remarkable for how much the lotteries cost in proportion to the results. In the famous Irish Sweepstakes, for example, only about 20 per cent of the money received actually goes in aid of the hospitals of Ireland.

In Australia the state of New South Wales decided to operate a lottery. But only about one-third of the receipts remains for charitable purposes.

OTHER CHANGES

What happens to the rest of the money? The prizes have to take the most of it, in order to provide the needed lure. The rest goes for administration. What this means, in practice, is that the public has to pay three dollars—or more—in order to get one dollar for public revenue (apart from the extremely few members of the public who may be prize-winners.)

It is argued, of course, that people are gambling anyway. It would be as well if their gambling were directed to a properly managed government lottery, instead of in other directions.

But this leaves in uncertainty the question whether a lottery sponsored by a government does not give to the spirit of gambling itself a new and wider stimulus. Those who may least afford to take the risk may have fresh encouragement to risk the most.

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