

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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Down The Homestretch

One thing we may be thankful for is that the election campaign, now in its last hours, has been conducted for the most part on a reasonably high level. Both parties are to be commended for exercising restraint in this regard.

We did find it surprising, however, that the Liberals glossed over so lightly the two main issues on which they battled when the House was in session. These were the alleged extravagance and mismanagement of the government's industrial program, chiefly in the Georgetown area, and the woeful financial straits into which they claim the Conservatives had plunged the province.

Instead of getting away to a re-sounding start on these issues when the election was called, the Liberals complained of the government's "in-aptitude" in failing to take on more programs on a shared cost basis with Ottawa, and promised all kinds of additional handouts from both provincial and federal sources.

Both parties, we think, have been over-zealous in making promises of this kind. But at least they come with more consistency from the government side, which maintains that the province is already on the march and is able to take these new expenditures in its stride, than from its opponents who maintain that we have been indulging in an orgy of overspending.

What the Liberals are up against, really, is that the Shaw government, despite some mistakes, has an unexcelled record of concrete achievement to its credit, that its forward-looking policies are based logically on the foundation it has already laid for them, and that the electors generally are aware of this fact.

In Accord At Last

After more than a year of incessant wrangling, the European Common Market seems to have reached agreement on a common agricultural policy. The accord aims at free trade within the community in all farm products. It calls for uniform price supports, a common level of tariff protection against imports, and establishment of a \$1.6 billion fund which will be used to modernize farming to pay the subsidy cost of exporting high priced farm surpluses.

In its eight years, the Common Market has made substantial progress in lowering internal industrial tariffs. These are now at 20 per cent of their original level and are scheduled to be wiped out entirely by mid-1968, a full 18 months ahead of the timetable set

In the Treaty of Rome. The community has failed to achieve similar success in agriculture mainly because of the enormous differences in farm structure, agricultural productivity and patterns of food consumption. Italians, for instance, consume on the average 50 per cent more grain than the average person in Germany or the Netherlands, whereas Italy's per capita consumption of potatoes is only half that of Germany. Meat consumption shows similar differences.

The new policy would not synchronize all of these differences. At best, it is an imperfect compromise reached, to some extent, at the expense of outside countries. But at least, once the Common Market can bargain as a single unit there will be scope for wider negotiations. Some optimists even predict that it may rescue the foundering Kennedy round of free world tariff negotiations in Geneva, gravely hampered by the Common Market's haggling over agriculture. Our farmers in both Canada and the United States would stand to gain if this result were to accrue.

Security Restrictions

Prime Minister Pearson and Opposition Leader Diefenbaker have agreed that it would be a mistake to overdo security precautions because of the recent bizarre bombing incident on Parliament Hill. That was a tragic affair, and it could have resulted in something much worse. But as Mr. Diefenbaker well said, history has shown that too stringent protective measures are often themselves an incitement to violence. Both leaders favored Commons consideration of new measures which might result from Speaker Lamoureux's announced review of security procedures.

One approach that is likely to be suggested is the British system of requiring visitors to have passes from their MPs. In a chamber as large as Canada's this would prove cumbersome on popular occasions such as budget night. It would also be of little use in stopping a determined assassin. A more acceptable method, suggests the Toronto Star, would be to tighten security at the entrance to the centre block. In theory, every visitor is supposed to stop at the security desk. If he wants to see a member, the guard phones to the member's office. Only if the MP is free is the visitor allowed into the building. Those seeking to observe the Commons are directed to wait in lineups or in chairs around the foyer. In practice, this could be avoided by requiring everyone, without exception, to check in with the security guard. Even this, concedes the Toronto paper, would not stop all mad bombers. For that matter, it is not likely anything short of a complete search could do so.

In any case, objectionable as overly severe security restrictions on visitors to the Parliament buildings might be, there seems no doubt that the system is due for an overhauling.

Still A Living Force

Under the impact of modern science, mastery of the classical languages is becoming a more and more difficult task. Even in Italy, Latin has been dropped from courses offered to first year students in secondary schools. At a conference recently of the Institute of Roman Studies in Rome only 100 Italian scholars turned up. It was regarded as gratifying, however, when 200 foreign Latin experts arrived from places as diverse as Britain, America, Russia, Germany, Ireland, France, Brazil, Poland and Africa.

The fact of the matter, as noted in the Vancouver Sun, is that despite an apparent decline in Latin in the schools, interest in it as a possible universal language has shown a revival. A new international federation, Una Voce, has been formed with headquarters in Switzerland and with chapters in several European countries, whose definite aim is to conserve the language.

Even in Japan, as the head of the Romg Institute observed, there are today scholars engaged in translating Cicero, Virgil and Lucretius. This in itself may not guarantee the future of Latin as a vehicle of communication, save among scholars, but it testifies to the living force, after 20 centuries, of one of the Western world's great founding cultures.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Fifty thousand million units of electricity have been generated by nuclear power in Britain—much more than the rest of the world put together. Furthermore, about 2,000 million kilowatt-hours are now being generated each month, nearly 14 per cent of the total monthly electricity production in Britain.



FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING TO EXTEND 5,000 MILES

New Trans-Siberian Line To The Pacific

The Soviet Union is building a some 5,000 miles across its "Wild East" to the Pacific. The massive undertaking will bring industrial development to remote regions of Siberia rich in coal, iron, and copper. The new line will take 15 to 20 years to build, and it will run north of the present trans-Siberian line into wild areas previously considered impassable.

The old road is the longest continuous railway in the world; it stretches 5,787 miles from Moscow to the port of Vladivostok on the Sea of Japan. The opulent coaches displayed at the Paris Exposition never crossed a Siberian trestle, a wood-burning locomotive hauled one first class car and two second-class sleepers, a diner, and a baggage car.

A foreign passenger found the gymnasium "just big enough for a stationary cycle." A solitary bathtub in the baggage car, he observed, "was used mainly as a receptacle for the storage of ice, vegetables, and meat." The present-day trans-Siberian offers "soft" (luxury or "hard" coaches. For many visitors, the soft coaches' elaborate furnishings to evoke the glamorous promise of the Paris Exposition. An English journalist said, "For anyone who values true magnificence, the luxury-class carriages are the ones to go for."

ISAR ORDERED RAILROAD An imperial decree signed by Tsar Alexander III signaled the beginning of the first trans-Siberian in 1891. Alexander directed his son Nicholas to lay the first foundation stone in Vladivostok "as fresh evidence of my sincere desire to facilitate communications between Siberia and other parts of the Empire."

The project challenged Russia's ablest construction engineers. Skilled labor was in such demand that workers had to be recruited from TURKEY, Persia, and India. Construction machinery was in short supply. A large boulder raised by rope and pulley served as a pile driver on one section of the route.

Nature proved a cruel adversary. Frozen subsoil bounced off picks like rubber balls. In parts of Siberia not a single tree could be laid until the so-called "arctic stone" was blasted with dynamite. Floods smashed embankments, overturned rolling stock, and unleashed landslides onto newly laid stretches of track.

Siberia's dreaded taigas, or coniferous marshland forests, spawned boards of mosquitoes to plague construction workers. A British naturalist commented that if Siberia ever needed a national emblem, "she cannot do better than to quarter her arms with a cloud of mosquitoes rampant."

FAIREST JEWEL Despite these obstacles, "the fairest jewel in the crown of the Tsars" was completed just after the turn of the century. Seafarers had jeered the railroad as "rusty streaks of iron through the vastness of nothing to the extremities of nowhere." But the trans-Siberian 2as instrumental in settling vast stretches of Siberia. Nearly 759,000 peasants and artisans entered the region in 1908.

On Saturday we remarked, in this space, on the soaring costs of housing. The same subject has been worrying Industry Minister Drury. In a speech last week he noted that the Economic Council of Canada had estimated that by 1970 expenditures on residential construction alone will increase by 50 per cent over the 1963 level. The council was concerned about the need to improve productivity to meet this demand.

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 28, 1941) Fighting on the bloody battleground of Crete between constantly reinforced Germans and weary British and Anzac soldiers became a grim, stand-up, slogging match. British troops were forced to give ground.

Common Sense Needed

Modern technological developments are capable of great advantages to mankind, but, with a natural resource like fisheries, if they are not managed and controlled wisely with thought for the future, these same technological developments can perhaps be too efficient so that the resource could be seriously depleted or at least reduced to the point where it is no longer advantageous to attempt to harvest the crop.

Talk Builds No Houses

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Leave The Door On

Cornell University researchers have ripped the social and psychological taboos off the bathroom and made some useful suggestions for improving this important room in the home. After a five-year study the researchers concluded that the average American bathroom is little changed from half a century ago when indoor plumbing was introduced.

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Creeping Eruption

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Few physicians encounter all the diseases mentioned in textbooks. Some of the rarer disorders are so obvious that they would be recognized the first time. Cutaneous larva migrans is one of these. The cause is the larva of a hookworm that enters the skin and migrates beneath the surface like a mole. The ensuing irritation is visible and, to my knowledge, nothing else leaves its mark as do these parasites.

The foreman of a construction crew complained to Capt. Charles E. Fuller, Veterinary Corps, United States Air Force, that seven of nine men refused to work in a three-foot high crawl space under a new hospital in Florida. They had developed an extremely irritating dermatitis after working in this area and threatened to walk off the job unless the situation was remedied.

The origin of the rash was recognized immediately and a physician prescribed an ethyl chloride spray once a day to freeze and thus kill the larvae. Meanwhile the crawl space was examined and found to be covered with a light, moist, sandy loam, completely shaded by the concrete floor of the building. While installing pipes, the workers laid on their back or sides in the sand.

A reliable pest-killing concern applied sodium borate to the soil during a two or three day nonworking period. The employees were told to wear long-sleeved shirts buttoned at the wrists, to secure their trousers at the ankles. In addition they were given a heavy plastic sheeting on which to lie while working. And finally they were encouraged to shower immediately after work to remove all oil from the skin.

GLAUCOMA AND VISION R.B. writes: Is eyesight, once lost through glaucoma, ever regained?

The outcome is poor if blindness has persisted, because this means that the optic nerve has been damaged permanently.

PROTEINS AND CANCER Mrs. M. writes: Does eating large amounts of proteins cause cancer?

Despite the fact that the cause of cancer is unknown there is no proof that diet, including too much protein, plays a role.

Ghana's Economic Mess

WASHINGTON (CP) — The hard dollar climb back to solvency has begun in Ghana. But no one imagines it will be easy to undo the economic havoc imposed on the first newly-independent African state by the ousted Kwame Nkrumah.

Talks here with the International Monetary Fund, which the new Ghanaian regime has agreed will have a watch-dog role, have impressed participants anew with the talents of the general run of Ghanaian officials: E. N. Omaboe, delegation leader, is regarded as brilliant — so much so that not even former prime minister Nkrumah dared fire him despite his anti-Nkrumah attitude.

But these conversations have also revealed the necessity of taking such harsh steps that the Ghanaian revolutionary regime may be arid pressed politically to survive. The origin of the rash was recognized immediately and a physician prescribed an ethyl chloride spray once a day to freeze and thus kill the larvae. Meanwhile the crawl space was examined and found to be covered with a light, moist, sandy loam, completely shaded by the concrete floor of the building.

There is some bitterness here among Canadian and other observers at what they feel is a negative attitude by Britain, West Germany and Italy. All these countries, they say, make a point of offering consumer-goods loans at six-per-cent interest to developing countries and list these commercial operations as part of their aid programs.

CREDIT WAS EXTENDED In Ghana's case, it is contended, this credit was extended to the Nkrumah regime long after it was evidence that the country was facing bankruptcy — and now that the crash has come, little or no concern is exhibited about the part played in this by the lending countries.

Canada at one time thought it was among the Ghanaian creditors to the tune of \$2,000,000 but re-examination shows this is not the case and the debt amounts only to about \$35,000. Hence Canada is not including itself among the creditor nations who must co-operate in working out their repayments schedule of mammoth loans to be faced by the new regime.

Fingerprints and Freedom

Britain has been hit by a serious crime wave which shows no signs of abating. To combat it, police have suggested that all adults in Britain be fingerprinted.

This has aroused considerable controversy. The British, who are sensitive about every aspect of human liberty, and most suspicious of anything that could smack of police state, have been divided over the proposal.

After the war Britain swiftly did away with identity cards, which have remained compulsory in many European countries, and the idea of compulsory fingerprinting still offends a large number of Britons.

This may be partly explained by the unpleasant connotations of fingerprinting, which in Europe has remained the badge of a criminal, and a mark of shame, despite the fact that during the war it was widely used in the army. Nothing offended Britons (and other Europeans) in the 1952 McCarran-Walter United States immigration act as much as the fact that they had to be fingerprinted if they wished to obtain a visa for the United States.

However, attitudes are changing. After a recent brutal slaying, the police asked for the fingerprints of all male inhabitants and almost immediately people were lining up outside the various mobile police headquarters to offer their fingerprints. The need to catch the killer overrode the distaste of the fingerprinting procedure.

There are other signs of a changing attitude towards the often necessary police measures to combat new social evils. The British draft bill on drunken driving that provides for random roadside tests with breathalyzer has given rise to fewer objections than would have been expected.

People in Britain are beginning to realize how high is the toll in life taken by drunken driving, and many agree with Barbara Castle, Britain's minister of transport, that the only way of reducing the danger of drunken drivers to other road users is by roadside tests carried out at random by police.

Thus many of the shibboleths that surround the undoubtedly important concept of freedom of the subject are falling victim to the complexities of modern society. As a British daily put it, with crime continuing to mount, the danger is no longer of a police state but of a crime state.



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