

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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In The Legislature

The proposed rates boost on the Borden-Tormentine ferry service quite properly brought a strong protest from the Legislature yesterday, in the form of a unanimous resolution denouncing any such move as detrimental to the interests of the province.

Meanwhile we note that the opposition, though in a minority, succeeded in outvoting the government and its supporters on an amendment to the Fish and Game Protection Act on Monday.

The session is nearing its close now, and with an election apparently in the offing one would expect that members of both parties would be on their toes.

Nor do we think the government has much cause for satisfaction in the manner in which it came through with the voluminous records of transaction with industrial firms, in compliance with a Liberal resolution passed earlier in the session.

Provincial financing has become so complicated that there is a difference of many millions of dollars between the debt the government says we owe and the amount the opposition maintains we have incurred.

In any case, this is bound to be a live issue on the hustings. There will be more heat than light thrown on it then, unless the government comes across with a plainer exposition in the meantime.

Need For Leadership

With our highway fatality figures going up alarmingly in this province, we can appreciate the force of the arguments advanced at a safety conference this week by Hon. George Hees for making an early start on a nation-wide program of accident prevention.

In Canada last year. While the number of persons injured on the highways in 1965 is not yet available, the total in 1964 was 139,534. Before we really know what can be done to improve this situation, he said, we should insist that accidents be thoroughly investigated. They are not investigated today; they are simply reported. Few police departments have the mechanical facilities to take a damaged vehicle apart and really find out if there was any fault in it.

Mr. Hees ran through a list of modern safety devices which he insisted should be built into every car manufactured nowadays; but he argued that training programs for drivers were equally important. All new drivers should be required to take training, and all new licenses should be temporary for three months, when a second driver test should be taken before a full license is granted.

Motor vehicles licensing, road construction, and what is taught in our schools are all under the jurisdiction of provincial governments; but Mr. Hees insisted that the lead in this field should be taken by Ottawa.

"In just eight more months," said Mr. Hees, "we enter Canada's Centennial year. This is our time to let the world know how much we really have done in the face of all the handicaps with which we have had to contend. Would it not be a wonderful thing for Canada to come up in that anniversary year with the fewest accidents per thousand citizens of all the industrialized countries of the world?"

There is need for leadership at top governmental levels to put across a program of this kind. Whatever it cost, as Mr. Hees well said, it would only be fractional compared to the cost of the accidents that are occurring.

Has Its Drawbacks

In theory, putting universities on a full-year operational basis would seem to be both practical and economical. Proponents have argued that the trimester or quarter system as devised for a year-round attendance would enable the state to cope more effectively with enrolment growth, use physical plants more efficiently and thereby hold down new construction and get students through college and into the job market sooner.

The latest report on the subject comes from Wisconsin, where a coordinating committee has recommended against the innovation for the state's public universities. Shifting to trimester or quarter operation, it says, requires big staff increases and a bigger payroll. It would cost substantially more money if summer course offerings were to attract full enrolment. Student needs for summer jobs, reliance by certain industries on summer student help and long cherished habits about vacations run contrary to efforts to induce voluntary summer attendance.

The committee agreed with its staff that the only immediately effective way of guaranteeing full summer enrolment—without which an attempt at full summer operation could be financially disastrous—is to use some form of compulsion. Former Governor Walter Kohler, co-ordinating committee chairman, said he didn't think "the legislature or this board or anybody else" would be willing to order the public to do something it didn't want to do.



THEY HAVE HAWKS AND DOVES TOO

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Evasive Replies To Expenditure Queries

MPs have the responsibility of approving the government's spending, and imposing the taxes necessary to raise that money. So it is basic to our parliamentary system that every MP must have complete access to the government's proposed and actual expenditures. That was why a barrage of protests was looked last week by Conservative MPs who one after another complained that questions posed by them as much as ten weeks previously had not yet been answered by the Ministry.

Ten years ago a Liberal government was thrown out of office by the voters because it had grown arrogant, lazy, dictatorial and evasive. Was the Pearson government born similarly arrogant and evasive? Why doesn't it give MPs the information they seek - and to which they are entitled - promptly, fully and above all frankly? A month ago, "Ottawa Report" commented upon one such case: Nova Scotia's Bob Coates had asked simply: "What has been the cost to date of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, and what is its final estimated cost?"

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 assumes no liability for any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

Sir, - This is the time of year when summer is in sight and plans for special events for then are being looked into. If all service clubs and institutes or auxiliaries were set to aside a small amount of cash and name an individual or more from their midst who could be given a course in Summer School, both the community and the individual would be served. I am suggesting this for two reasons, very different, and you might think strange. One, if my mother were alive she would be driving still for active interest in education and the arts in each village. Not many people know of a solid way of bringing this about but would be willing to go along if someone would organize it. I feel she would have done a lot more had she not passed away a year ago in Mar. I prefer to remember her birthday which was April 5. At the Tishish Arts Foundation and the Columbia Cultural Centre in North Rustico, interested and serious minded people have started gatherings which are supported by communities in that students are sent there largely by community sponsorship. More specialized training could be given for those ill able to afford it. The teacher, the singer, the would-be of a any field should be helped. Prince Edward Islanders could show the rest of the country that we prefer to help ourselves rather than moan about government spending relying upon outside help. I am, Sir, etc., PEGGY LELLS, SMITH

Ear Stroke Dizziness

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen "What is ear stroke? Several weeks ago I suddenly became so dizzy and nauseated my physician hospitalized me. My left ear began to roar and I became deaf on that side. The condition is improving although I'm still afraid to move my head because it makes me woozy."

Meniere's syndrome also involves the balancing mechanism of the ear. The symptoms are similar to "ear stroke" except that the attacks last an hour or more, subside, and then return when least expected. Drugs that improve circulation and reduce fluid retention in the ear are helpful. Ultrasonics or surgery are used when symptoms persist and the victim is becoming hard of hearing.

There are many causes of vertigo. Some become dizzy when the head is turned to the left and right or upwards, as when looking at an airplane. Arthritis of the neck is responsible in some. In others, the circulation to the brain is disturbed because certain blood vessels in the neck are strangulated by misplaced tendons whenever the head is turned. Special X-ray studies are needed to make these diagnoses.

ANEMIA AND PREGNANCY Mrs. F. writes: "What effect would anemia have on pregnancy?"

REPLY: It lowers resistance and causes fatigue. It also affects the youngster who comes into the world with an inadequate supply of iron. This is an undesirable situation because it is difficult to make up the deficit since milk contains little of this mineral.

NEED NOT RIPEN I. Z. writes: "How long does it take for a cataract to become ripe enough to operate?"

REPLY: Eye surgeons no longer wait for the cataract to ripen but recommend surgery as soon as vision becomes so poor the victim is unable to perform ordinary tasks.

WANTS TO DONATE G. M. writes: "Is it possible for a person who once was infected with syphilis to donate blood?"

REPLY: Yes, provided sufficient time has elapsed since the infection was cured, and the blood now is negative.

SMOKING AND ASTHMA M. V. writes: "Does smoking make asthma worse?"

REPLY: Yes, because it has an irritating effect on the mucous membranes of the bronchi. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

Ominous Risk In Saigon

By Arch MacKenzie Canadian Press Staff, Washington for the six premiers who have reigned briefly since Diem's 1963 assassination. NO DECISION Official U.S. statements have never said precisely what would happen if a South Vietnamese government asked the U.S. to take its 230,000 troops home. While the current unrest has disclosed substantial anti-American sentiment, observers here discount the likelihood any southern regime will ask the U.S. to leave. The military organization remains the only really organized entity in the south, despite Buddhist capacity to stage demonstrations, and will remain so, it is felt. The military has a vested interest in fighting on. More ominous from the U.S. standpoint is the risk that in the northern area, centring on Hue, there may be some defecting troops. These defectors would be "rebels" to the forces representing Saigon. Such a situation could be disastrous, amounting to what would be a civil war within a civil war if credence is given to the view that the Viet Cong insurgents in the south are rebels rather than aggressors representing the north.

Real Space Danger

Sherbrooke Record To the ordinary earthbound individual the problem of the toothache is essentially one of discomfort which generally can be solved by a visit to the dentist. But to the astronaut compelled to make space voyages of 30 days or longer it is a really threatening health problem. Lt. Col. Jack L. Hartley, of the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, says that the excruciating pain of a toothache causes erratic performance at the controls. Weightlessness compounds the problem by causing astronauts to bump their heads so violently that broken or loose teeth are a major hazard. Until space cabins are large enough to accommodate a dentist on each flight, astronauts will carry a do-it-yourself tooth-pulling kit. They already have special toothpaste which is swallowed, so that tiny droplets of water will float around in the cabin.

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Fish & Chips Go Fancy

Calgary Herald The English have suffered many rude slanders about their national cuisine—some of them undoubtedly justified. But there are some aspects of English cooking which should be sacred and unsullied, free from the more sophisticated aspects of modernization. It seems, however, that nothing is sacred any more, because even that noble institution—the fish and chip shop—is being forced to change its image. Aided by organizations like the National Association of Fish Fryers and the Potato Marketing Board, the shops are trying to become glamorous. Egad, what a tragedy. For decades, Ye Olde English Fishes and Chip Shoppe has floated serenely along in its own charmingly greasy fashion. Now, some establishments have gone to the horrendous extreme of serving mushrooms and wine with orders. They have even committed the sacrilege of wrapping orders in clean, white paper instead of smudgy old newspaper. Gone that unforgettable flavor or mingled fish, soggy batter, grease and printer's ink. If Britain has become less class-conscious since the war, it appears to have become more status-conscious. It's no longer permissible to request an order of good, old-fashioned "Fish and Chips." Now, in the more holly-tivity places it's "poisson, et pommes frites."

Almost \$200 A Day

Toronto Globe and Mail Weep not for the politicians who labor on our behalf on Parliament Hill. It isn't really a bad line of business to be in if you are not over-sensitive to tedium and if you have prudently prepared yourself to cope with leisure. Even without this kind of protection there are compensations. Let us consider the past year of Parliament's life—measuring it, if you will, from April Fool's Day, 1965, to April Fool's Day, 1966. The first portion ran through to June 30—a total of 53 working days. Then Parliament rose for what might loosely be termed the summer recess. Members came trudging back through the snow, purged but not noticeably purified by an election, to begin a new session on January 18. From then until the end of last month Parliament had been in business for a further 53 days, or 106 days in the full year. Members are paid \$18,000 a year, including \$6,000 in tax-free allowances—a total remuneration which might reasonably be calculated as the equivalent of a fully-taxed salary of \$21,000. At that rate it works out at almost \$200 for every working day—a truly remarkable figure and one which the Government, by its decision to take an Easter holiday, seems determined to improve. Of course, it can be argued that members of Parliament sit on committees and also deal with their constituents. But we must weigh against that the fact that attendance in the House is almost never full and the much more vital matter that even when members are in their places a dismaying proportion of their time is wasted. We dare not attempt to calculate their daily rate of pay on the basis of truly productive days only. Niagara Falls is 100,000 years old, a baby in terms of geological time.

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