

Why The Anonymity?

Who are all these so-called islanders from whom "anti-causeway rumblings" are allegedly coming at this time? A Canadian Press staff writer has been buying himself in describing them, after a recent visit to the Province; but he names no names and we can only surmise as to the source or sources of his information.

Of course there were minor disadvantages as well as major advantages in being united to the mainland by a permanent causeway. This whole subject was discussed, in all its ramifications, when the project was first mooted. The objections were fully disposed of before the 1959 provincial election, when the Conservatives rode to victory as the "Party of the Causeway", leaving the Liberals complaining that they had stolen the whole idea from them.

By that time those who were against the causeway in this Province were as scarce as hens' teeth; the only questions remaining were as to its feasibility from the construction standpoint, and its economic justification over a period of years. These were problems the Federal Department of Public Works set itself to determine. After several years of waiting, we received the good news that on both these counts the project had been given the green light.

A definite pledge as to the causeway's construction, followed by the letting of contracts for the initial engineering work, proved a big factor in re-electing our federal Conservative candidates in this Province. More than that, the causeway undertaking was hailed with general approval throughout the Atlantic Provinces.

Today, in view of the austerity measures adopted at Ottawa, some doubts have been expressed about the chances the project will have on a priority basis. We do not think such doubts are justified, since the surveys are too far advanced and the government too definitely committed. But a small thing could tip the scales at this juncture. If the authorities have any intention of shelving the scheme, what better excuse could they want than an "anti-causeway" campaign purporting to emanate from ourselves?

If such sentiments are to be attributed to a segment of our people, and quoted and exploited against us across Canada, we are entitled to know from whom they come. The Canadian Press had an obligation here which it shirked in giving wide publicity to the "rumblings" without pinpointing their source.

Civil Service Changes

In heading his party as Opposition leader in the general election of 1957, Mr. Diefenbaker stressed the need of securing "a reduction of unnecessary expenditures of government" by setting up a commission similar to the Hoover Commission in the United States, which had proposed economies in expenditures at Washington running into the millions of dollars. At the beginning of 1960, as Prime Minister, Mr. Diefenbaker again spoke of his intention of appointing such a commission to examine the whole administrative system of the country.

need of practicing some measure of austerity and cutting down the government's annual deficits, he has taken steps to "freeze" the number of federal civil servants.

What has happened, according to the Montreal Gazette, is that the number of civil servants will be fixed at the figures on June 29. At that date, there were a considerable number of vacancies. These cannot now be filled except by having each individual case approved by the Treasury Board. The Treasury Board is composed of the Minister of Finance (who is the chairman), and five other ministers, usually with the Deputy Minister of Finance as its secretary.

No clear estimate has been made of the difference this procedure would make, but it could be considerable. It is one thing for a department to fill vacancies automatically; quite another to have each appointment, over and above the figure of June 29, go before the Treasury Board for individual approval. It has been suggested that by adopting this course the maximum size of the government establishment may have been reduced by as much as five per cent.

The Gazette recalls that about two years ago, the Organization and Methods Division of the Civil Service Commission found that 500 civil servants were holding jobs that were "surplus" or "redundant." These jobs were abolished. Some workers were dismissed as "incapable or incompetent," but these were few. The many efficient workers whose jobs had become unnecessary were transferred from one branch of the civil service to another, with payroll savings estimated at about \$1,500,000 a year.

Further changes of this kind may result from the present austerity program. The aim, certainly, should be to introduce reforms with as little disruption to the public service as possible, and with continued emphasis on efficiency.

Air-Borne Surgery

A flying operation room that can be used in swamps, deserts or on mountain peaks has been developed by a West German manufacturer. It has drawn immediate interest from safety officials, physicians and the military, and one can well understand why. Many lives have been lost for lack of such emergency equipment. The only surprising thing is that it was not developed sooner.

Named the Clinicopter, the rectangular gondola can be rushed by helicopter with medical and surgical equipment to scenes of accidents or catastrophes in difficult terrain. Operation of the equipment was first demonstrated at a recent fair in Hanover. Since then officials in West Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and Lebanon and a private organization in the United States have shown interest in the device.

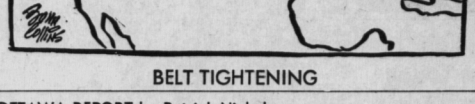
The same firm which is producing it also produces mobileclinics on wheels and rail as well as floating and prefabricated hospitals that can be taken apart and reassembled. A fine example of what mass production can achieve in the way of providing means for alleviating suffering.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Unfavorable weather is naturally causing concern to our tourist officials, and to our farmers as well. A "few days of sunshine" could do us all a lot of good.

What would happen now, asks an exchange, if a citizen of Saskatchewan who had paid his compulsory premium sees the government health insurance commission for breach of contract when he finds himself unable to get the care his policy entitles him to receive? His contract is with the government body, not with any doctor.

A coroner's jury has found that the recent double highway fatality in this Province could have been averted by the use of seat belts, and strongly recommended the use of this equipment in motor vehicles generally. We trust that this warning will not go unheeded. Similar findings have been made at inquests across Canada in recent months, all pointing up the need for using this simple safety device. It is estimated that the appalling toll in deaths and injuries on our highways could be reduced by as much as one-third in this manner.



OTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Speculative Raid On The Dollar

After the end of World War II, we gradually built up a pattern of excessive spending on U.S. manufactured goods and services. Florida dollars. We began to import more than we exported, and we began to spend more on travel in other countries than foreigners spent in Canada.

Normally, the international exchange value of the currency of such a country will fall. This corrective action discourages imports by making them more costly, and encourages foreigners to buy the products and tourism of such a country because they are cheaper.

But this did not happen in our case; no such corrective devaluation of our dollar took place. It help us right our adverse international trade position. This was because foreign capital was pouring into Canada, creating an international demand for our dollar, and forcing its exchange value up to a premium.

When the government adopted the policy of eliminating the premium on our dollar last summer, it was widely applauded by Canadian businessmen and by Liberal leader Lester Pearson and other opposition leaders. At the same time, businessmen in U.S.A. expressed their worry.

The same firm which is producing it also produces mobileclinics on wheels and rail as well as floating and prefabricated hospitals that can be taken apart and reassembled.

The government succeeded in bringing international exchange value of our dollar down from \$1.06 in U.S. currency to 93 cents.

This action would encourage a correction of our deficit in international trade by making our exports more competitive and our "invisible" imports.

But then two other factors came into play. First, the dollar value of foreign capital, chiefly from U.S.A., began to dry up. Second, the European Common Market had been formed and was beginning to prosper.

The result was that our exports had previously suffered European standards substantially below those of the U.S. and Canada. So when the capital flow began to halt, currency converters in other countries began to forecast huge profits if they could force down the value of our dollar.

So the financial situation of the International Monetary Fund, which Canada had distinguished itself by contributing a fixed exchange rate of 96 cents to U.S. currency for our dollar, has become a seasonal one. As one Wall Street authority in the New York money market described it, "The Canadian Dollar has been the victim of one of the latest speculative raids of any currency in history."

TV Watching Is Increasing Coccys Pain

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Coccypodina is a painful condition of the tail bone (coccyx) and its neighboring region. It is said to be on the increase because more people are watching TV for hours at a time.

While prolonged sitting on one's buttocks leads to coccyx pain, there are others. Slouching while driving on long auto trips is one, and injury, unnoticed, such as an inch long, sprouting from the base of the spine. It rarely is formed until the age of 40 and has no function except to hold certain muscles in place.

It can be a great nuisance when injured because it is surrounded by many nerves and muscles. Falling, especially on the stairs or while skating or skiing, is likely to injure "the area. Damage occurs either through a blow or kick (static injury), or through a fall (dynamic injury). Pain from a trivial accident usually disappears in a short time; from a more serious one, it persists. A true coccydynia exists when a little coccyx persists after strain or injury to the lower spine, even though healing is complete.

No one knows why pain persists even after the tye bon is removed. Months or years may elapse before the tenderness vanishes. Discomfort may stem from residual arthritis and occasionally from inflammation of the neighboring nerves or pelvic organs.

Fractures require absolute rest in bed and local heat. Later strips of adhesive tape are applied to the lower back, and coccydynia is relieved almost by coccyx via diathermy, infrared, or warm baths.

But the individual must sit properly to be comfortable. The coccyx should be in a neutral position, not bent backward in the erect sitting posture to relieve strain. A coccyx should be in a neutral position, not bent backward in the erect sitting posture to relieve strain.

The word "austerity" is still being applied to these measures. Our "austerity" has luxury in contrast to conditions in Europe.

Liberia's Example

By Rod Currie Canadian Press Staff Writer One of the descendants of the handful of freed American slaves who went to West Africa to establish their country, down Victoria helped the nation into being and recognized it.

A year later, in 1848, the first president visited London to thank the Queen. That visit was repeated until the royal couple called at the capital, Monrovia, last November and invited Tubman to London.

The British, American and native influences have brought forth a strange country where descendants of the American Negroes, although outnumbered 20-1 by the indigenous Africans, pretty well have the upper hand.

Tubman, a devout Christian and an anti-Communist, has been in office 19 years with no opposition worth mentioning. His main aims have been to unite his complex country and bring in new capital to develop the Liberia's dependence on the two basic industries—rubber and timber.

In these he has been notably successful, particularly in recent years. But there still is a poor record in the financial field.

What actual harm they do to water is questionable. Some argue that they injure fish and there is, of course, the danger that anyone, particularly a child, who fell in could be seen under the foam by would-be rescuers.

A simple remedy is available. If housewives bought only detergents which do not break down into soaps, they would be spared the long-term problem of synthetic detergents. They are part of it. Our so-called progress which do not break down into soaps for disposal. These, like synthetic foaming detergents, do not seek chemical sewage treatment plants. And no one can tell, at this point, whether the long-term effect will be on water course.

Needed: Bird-Listeners

Charles Maclean, Science Mania! I never, man refer to the range of species, the birds declare their empire with a summer song.

NOTES BY THE WAY

There is a lady in our town—an avid flower gardener—who each year on her birthday receives a truckload of basic fertilizer from an employer. It is a been this gentleman's habit to deliver the product in person, knock at the door, bow deeply and then proceed to unload the contents of the trailer. loudly shouting "Happy Birthday to you!" while keeping perfect time with the shovel. The lady concedes that the man is somewhat unusual but deeply appreciates her superior flower buds. —Milwaukee Journal.

British Bank Closings

National Geographic Society called the world's richest square mile. As in most countries, however, Britain's holidays stem largely from religious festivals.

Pain readers and fortune tellers in Glendale, a suburb of Phoenix, Ariz., were taken by surprise Tuesday when the town clerk reduced the license fee exacted of them to \$15 every three months from \$25 a day. They should have foreseen that a council's leniency had not been predicted by its beneficiaries. They should have foreseen that a license fee so steep that it puts tellers of fortunes out of business was bound to be reduced by a council looking for revenue. —Can. Briton Post.

Commercial streets become as still as tombs. Cries turn inside out as the outdoors during British take to the pastoral countryside in a tangle of cars, motor bikes, charabancs, and lorries.

Britons celebrate four bank holidays each year. They are: Whit Monday (June 11, 1963), the first Monday in August, Boxing Day on December 26, and Good Friday. Whit Monday has long been celebrated by Britons. It falls after the great Christian feast of Pentecost, the custom of Whit Monday, at least in the minds of Londoners, was to mark the Green's trial by a bygone explosion of merriment.

The fair didn't exactly go "out of town" according to Robert Chambers in his classic "Book of Days." Magistrates found that the enjoyment of the festival involved much disorder and impropriety; and so its chief activities were sternly forbidden.

The bank holiday on August's first, though its gift giving has a historic basis, though one of Britain's great pagan festivals occurred on the day. It was called, probably half the first fruits of harvest. When Christianity came in, a loaf of bread was offered at a church, and the day came to be known as Hlafmas, or Lammas was mock battling among cowherds. He said the bylaw led to "great fights and battles," but, on the whole, Lammas was a "pleasant affair."

Boeing Day is peculiarly British, though its gift giving was brought to England by Romans as part of Saturnalia. In time it became the custom for householders to give "boxes" to employees, servants and functionaries. Boeing Day is a favorite time for children's parties, and it marks the beginning of the pantomime season in the British theater.

At Easter time, sharing the world's seasonal joy, old England had its own special customs. A traditional food was a tansy cake, symbol of the paschal feast's bitter herbs. One unusual practice, by present standards, was for clerics and chorists to play a form of symbolic ball in church for rewards of tansy cake on Easter Monday.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are happy to advise that FRED E. HYNDMAN has become associated with this firm on a full time basis. He represents the fourth generation of the Hyndman family active in the business established by his great-grandfather in the year 1872.

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David Douglas, the Scottish biologist, after whom the Douglas fir was named, was killed by a wild bull in Elvral in 1854.

EATON EXECUTIVES VISIT CHARLOTTETOWN—John David Eaton (left), president of Eaton's of Canada's was in Charlottetown Monday and Tuesday of this week. During his visit to the Atlantic Provinces Mr. Eaton was accompanied by J. R. Jenkins (centre), senior vice-president of the company, and H. P. Parker (right), a director and general manager of the Maritime division.