

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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At The Crossroads
Britain's attempt to head off a declaration of independence by Rhodesia's white-dominated government doesn't seem to be getting anywhere.

Technically, of course, this is not a Commonwealth affair since Rhodesia is not strictly a Commonwealth country; it is a British colony. But the consequences of an illegal seizure of independence by the Smith government are so grave that not only the Commonwealth, but the United Nations is solidly against any such move that would deprive the Negro majority of a responsible share in the government of their country.

So solid is UN opinion that Great Britain has been asked to use force if necessary to defeat Smith's plan. But it is Britain which must make this decision, and there is no evidence that the British government has any intention of going this far. It has, however, indicated that if the threatened action is carried out it would be obliged to declare the Rhodesian government a rebel government.

What would this mean? In the first place, it would automatically cut Rhodesia off from financial, economic, political, and other support from the British government and all loyal Britons. If this did not bring the Smith government to heel, a second consequence would be a British initiative of some kind in the United Nations. Rhodesia, now a strictly British concern, would have declared itself to be outside the British sphere and thus have taken itself into the international sphere.

A third consequence, it is predicted, would be the division of Rhodesians themselves into rebel and loyalist elements. This could spark action by other African governments, guerrilla warfare along the banks of the Zambezi and within Rhodesia, even intervention by Communist powers and a danger of general war or chaos throughout Africa.

A dispatch from Salisbury over the weekend indicated that there is little appreciation among white Rhodesians of the gravity of their position. They went on picnics, watched a tennis match and recovered from their usual Saturday night round of parties, dances and movies as if they hadn't a care in the world. In Britain, however, the approaching crisis is being given grave consideration. Significant in this connection is the fact that Britain's Conservative party hierarchy has given full backing to the Labor government in its efforts to cope with it.

British Ombudsman
There was some talk of providing an "ombudsman" at Ottawa, to protect the individual from any maladministration of bureaucrats, but it petered out before Parliament was dissolved and we've heard nothing about it since. In Britain, however, the government has finally announced its decision to appoint this type of official, who will have limited powers compared with his opposite number in Scandinavia or New Zealand.

He will work only through members of Parliament. It is they who will decide whether complaints are suitable for submission to the ombudsman. MPs will continue to be frontline watchdogs of liberty in keeping with British tradition. Since the days of the Witenagemot, back in the sixth century, Parliament has had the duty of safeguarding the rights of citizens and it intends to carry on in this way.

The commissioner will investigate and report his findings to Parliament which will then decide what redress, if any, should be made. Also, his powers will be limited to grievances against the central government. He will have access to departmental files and minutes and will be able to summon witnesses. The minister involved will have tightly restricted rights to block the commissioner's activities "in the national interest," or for security purposes.

Public and press reaction to the proposed appointment is most favorable. Where there is criticism, it is not of the ombudsman idea as such, but of what is termed "red tape" limiting the commissioner's sphere of action. But there is no doubt that if the new official gets results, his position will be strengthened. Also the field may be extended to local administrations. It is here the citizen most often comes into conflict with authority.

Bond Interest Rates

Amid the spate of election promises it is surprising that taxpayers' grievances with respect to the financing of Canada Savings Bonds hasn't come in for attention. It is claimed in this regard that the interests of those who work for and save their money, as against the beneficiaries of the welfare state, are getting a raw deal.

For example, as protection against inflation, the Canada Pension Plan provides that pensions under the plan and Old Age Security pensions "will" be increased in line with increases in the cost of living. No such protection, however, is afforded purchasers of Canada Savings Bonds, notwithstanding that the purchase of these bonds is represented not only as an act of patriotism but as being of great benefit to the purchaser.

Mounting living costs are due to inflation. In public, politicians deplore it but all government policy seems based on continuing it. It is the erosion of this inflation which affects the value of savings bonds; yet the state—which is the chief culprit in inflation—insists that the bondholder pay income tax on the full interest rate, regardless of whether he receives it as rental or not.

As a spur to economy, the savings bond idea is fine. But if the savers are indeed the salt of the earth, as we are told at Canada Savings Bond time, they are surely worthy of as much consideration as other segments of society. This ought to be enough to warrant a pledge to look into the matter and introduce a more satisfactory system, in keeping with the trend of the times.

More Criticism

Now it's the Inter-American Press Association, an organization representing nearly 700 independent newspapers of the Western hemisphere, which has come out with a blast against the Pearson government for its legislation imposing, in effect, a tax on advertising in non-Canadian newspaper and periodicals, primarily directed to the Canadian market.

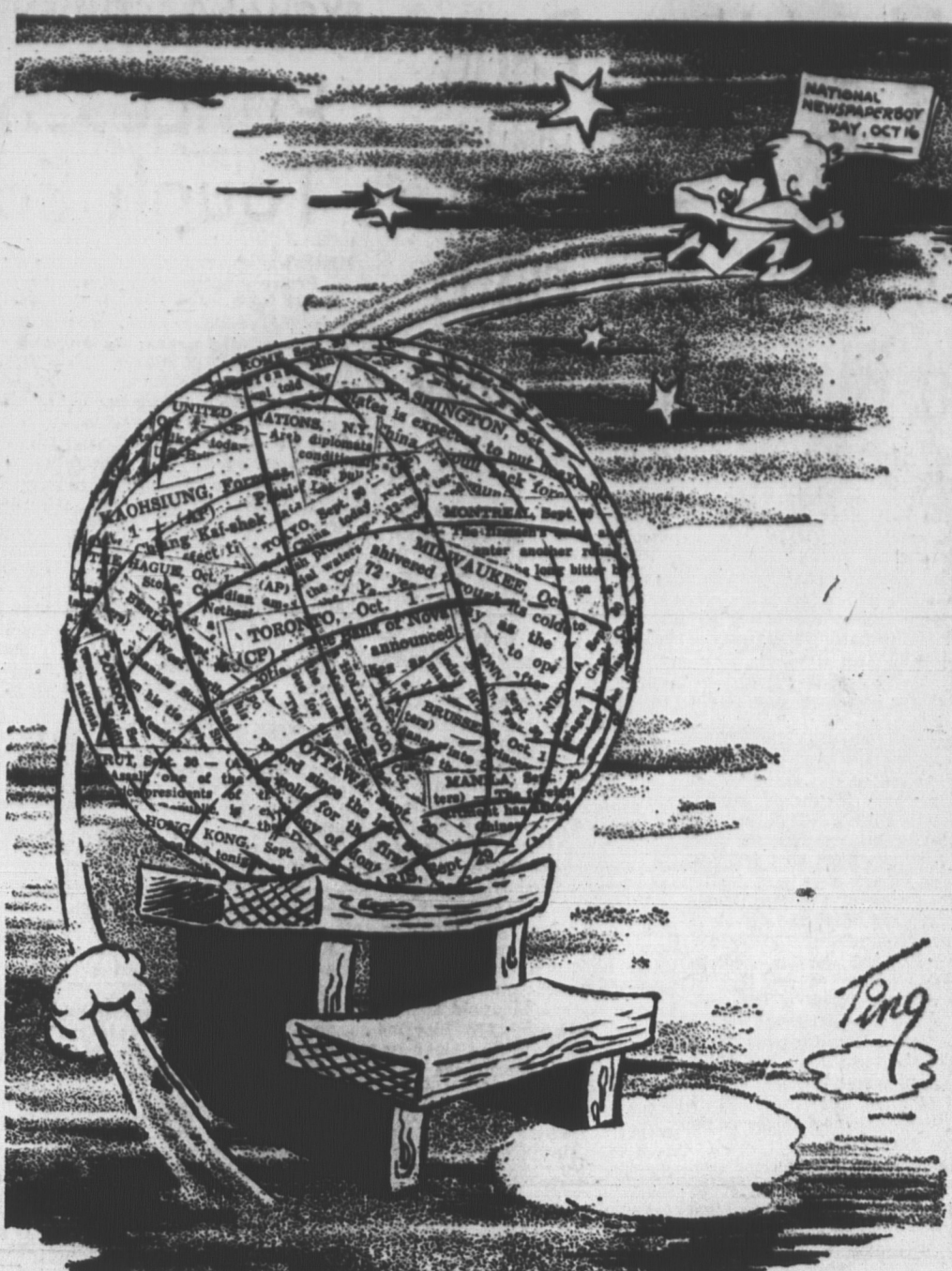
This association, in a resolution passed over the weekend at its general assembly in San Diego, California, says it is "inimical to those great traditions of a free press which Canada has so honorably upheld for almost 100 years." It affirms its belief that "there should be no restrictions on the right of a free person to publish in a free society, and that the exercise of journalism is free," therefore that "prohibitions, restrictions or permits to exercise it, whether they affect owners, editors, directors, contributors or employees of a publication, violate freedom of the press." The resolution asks the repeal of this "discriminatory and retrograde legislation" at the next session of Parliament.

This followed a report by the association's executive committee, noting that the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association last April voted its "serious protest" to the bill and that it also had been criticized by the Commonwealth Press Union, and by the International Press Institute.

This was a pet scheme of Finance Minister Gordon, which was put through with little consideration of the consequences involved. Now it is being made plain to others, at least, in the government that it was anything but a brilliant idea.

EDITORIAL NOTE

According to an American exchange, a whispered joke is going the rounds of the Soviet Union. It is to this effect: "Our agriculture is miraculous—our experts plant grain in the virgin lands and it comes up in Canada."



THE WORLD ON YOUR DOORSTEP

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Sees Great Issue One Of Leadership

Tommy Douglas, leader of the New Democratic Party, will celebrate his 61st birthday this week. When he completed his university education in 1930, he immediately entered the Baptist Ministry. But he had won the Gold Medal for Debating at university, so not surprisingly his eyes turned toward politics. In 1935 he was elected to the House of Commons as was Paul Martin, and these two shared the honour of being the senior member of our recent Parliament in that respect. From 1944 to 1961, Tommy Douglas was CCF Premier of Saskatchewan, and he left that post by resignation when he was elected national leader of his party, which had just been renamed and reborn as the New Democratic Party.

day the most prominent New Canadian of British origin in our public life. I asked him his views on the issues underlying this election, and, as a member of the British minority, his opinions on the racial issue. This is what he told me: "We Anglo-Saxons in the rest of Canada other than Quebec, and even in parts of Quebec, control the business and dominate whole segments of the economy. We have roots which give us a sense of security, a sense of being the top dog, which other minorities have never had, and never can attain. In parts of Canada there is a feeling against Quebec: one might call it animosity. My own belief is that we have not been aware of the problem of Quebec, and we have been too slow in growing concerned about Quebec. With typical Anglo-Saxon phlegmatic unconcern for things of that sort, we have let resentment in Quebec grow up, and now we find an undercurrent of resentment against Quebec. "The great issue in our public life, and in this election, is still the issue of leadership. I find as I go around the country that a very considerable proportion of the population is undecided and uncommitted. Even those who have regularly supported the old line parties in the past are now undecided. Our leaders have failed to challenge the Canadian people to make the greater effort, and have failed to give a new sense of direction and national purpose. "The people generally have lost faith in politicians, with their suspect honesty and lack of national goals. I don't blame anyone for being fed up who has watched the slimy hands of the underworld reaching up into the councils of the nation, and who has watched influence peddling and bail-jumpers subverting justice. "AUTO PACT UNCERTAINTY "Prime Minister Pearson and Industry Minister Drury have failed to produce for public scrutiny all the documents relating to the auto pact with U.S.A. The government has awarded very considerable benefits to the auto-makers, in the form of a rebate of more than \$50 million each year; but the government has been wrong in falling to ensure that these benefits would be passed on to the consumer in the form of lower car prices, and paid out to workers displaced by the rationalization of the auto industry. "In short, the people are looking for leadership; but they are not getting it, partly because our present leaders are not yet aware that our generation has moved into a new chapter of history—that of the scientific revolution."

West Germany's Example

A survey by one of West Germany's leading statistical institutes has established that 42 per cent of all German adults can speak at least one foreign language. Twenty-six out of 100 Germans can speak English and 24 know French, the percentage of those speaking French having more than doubled during the past 10 years. This is most remarkable, because the Germans form the largest linguistic group in Europe (outside Russia) and German has for long been a popular second language all across Northern, Central and Eastern Europe.

What If It Rains?

A ridiculous plan for Canada's centennial year has been approved by the government. It concerns a monster spectacular open-air production on Parliament Hill in the summer of 1967. This is a cornball plan of the most naive sort. To spend what may well be hundreds of thousands of dollars on a show that will be shown outdoors in a place that isn't even remotely like an amphitheatre is not only to be wasteful but to be careless with Canada's reputation for circumspection.

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (October 19, 1940) Terrific blasts shook London before dawn as Nazi airmen renewed their attacks after the counter-thrusting Royal Air Force had hurled 15,000 bombs on German invasion bases across the English Channel. Pope Pius XII broadcast a personal message to the Roman Catholics of the United States in observance of mission Sunday by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. The society was founded 118 years ago. TEN YEARS AGO (October 19, 1955) Leading Aircraftsman William M. Gallant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Gallant, New Acadia, P.E.I., was promoted to the rank of Corporal in the Royal Canadian Air Force. Miss Anne Marie Pineau, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Urban Pineau of Bloomfield, P.E.I., recently graduated in the 1955 class of Verdun General Hospital, Montreal.

Remedies For Acne

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen J. F. writes: "I have acne and try every new treatment for at least two weeks. So far, no luck. Do you know of a sure cure?" There are many good remedies for this condition and the newest sulfonamide is said to help 80 per cent of those with common acne. There is no cure, but the skin usually clears spontaneously in young adulthood.

Ninety per cent of all adolescents have this problem. The oiliness, pimples, and blackheads develop at a time of life when youngsters want to look their best. The condition should not be neglected, yet over-treatment is worse than no treatment. Gentleness is the secret especially when applying ointments and squeezing blackheads and pimples.

The local treatment includes cleansing the face with warm water and soap followed by the application of preparations containing agents that reduce oiliness, peel the skin, and unplug the openings of the sebaceous glands allowing the oil to flow freely. The agents include sulfur, resorcinol, and salicylic acid. Antibacterial soaps, such as Phioflex, Dial, or Safeguard are useful. Ultraviolet is beneficial. It is advisable to reduce the intake of milk and dairy products, chocolate, nuts, and foods fried in deep fat.

The severity of acne depends upon the depth of the lesions and the extent of injury to the epidermis. Special treatment is needed when deep cysts are present. These must be drained surgically or treated by repeated injections of triamcinolone directly into the lesion. The latter reduces swelling and lessens redness.

Internal remedies also may be needed when the condition persists or tends to recur. These include vitamin A; antibiotics such as tetracycline and erythromycin; sulfisoxazole, sulfamethoxyypyridine and the new-coming, sulfamethoxydiazine. Estrogen hormones are useful but they must be used over a long time.

R. P. writes: Could an overactive thyroid cause a stiff neck? I have both conditions. My neck is sore when I turn my head from side to side. I doubt if the conditions are related. The most common origin of pain on turning the head are arthritis of the vertebrae and inflammation or tension of nearby muscles or fibrous tissue. Infection in the throat or thyroid gland also may lead to stiff neck.

SWEET TOOTH Mrs. C. writes: The male members of our family goes for sweets and candy like some men go for liquor. Is this harmful?

REPLY No, provided he is not obese. I hope he thinks the women in the family are sweet, too.

LUNG LESION S. J. T. writes: What are the important symptoms of malignancy of the lung?

REPLY Cough, chest pain and bloody sputum. X-ray findings may exist long before these symptoms occur.

DON'T WORRY Mrs. F.Z. writes: "Are the heart and liver disturbed by the change of life?"

REPLY No.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—Keep both hands on the wheel when driving. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

Today's teen-age girls must be stronger physically than their predecessors, as a number of them can hang on to a boy scooting around on a motorcycle every way but carefully.—Gusph Mercury.

Butler: "I have to inform your lordship that there's a burglar downstairs." His Lordship: "Very well, Parkinson; bring my gun and sports suit—the heater mixture."—Financial Post.

A pessimist is one who suspects that if Canadian automobile prices ever become comparable to U.S. prices, it will mean that American prices have gone up a long way.—Ottawa Journal.

'Majority' And 'Plurality'

Election candidates win with a "majority" or a "plurality" and every election brings an argument on what the terms mean. The Oxford Dictionary is precise. It says that a majority is "the number by which, in voting, the votes cast on one side exceed those cast on the other." If one candidate has 300 votes and the other 100, the winner has a majority of 200.

A plurality is "an excess of votes polled by the leading candidate in an election above those polled by the one next to him, in cases where there are three or more candidates." For example, Conservative Donald MacInnis in Cape Breton South in 1963 polled 14,307 votes, an NDP opponent 13,327 and a Liberal 9,184. Mr. MacInnis had a plurality of 909. He did not have a majority.

Arabs Make Up — Again

Once again 12 Arab leaders have met, this time in Casablanca, to pledge undying unity and mutual solution of the "Palestine problem"—by which they mean Israel. To seal the promise, they have agreed to stop the constant radio attacks on each other.

President Nasser of the United Arab Republic showed up as the greatest conciliator. But this was not until he made the claim that Cairo's radio attacks on the other—normally considered the most widespread, constant and sharp—were simply replies to their attacks on him. Anyhow, agreement finally came. Now the leaders must seek a solution to the problem posed by the claim of an organization known as the Palestine Liberation Organization that the Arab states aren't supporting it. After that, they can consider the failure to take steps agreed upon for diverting water in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria from Israel.

More Than Time Flies

Now and again an item comes into the news that acts as a reminder of how much the world has changed, within a few years. Such an item tells of the death of Col. James J. Fitzmaurice. It was this Irishman who joined two Germans in 1928 to fly over the Atlantic, east to west. This was only 11 months after Charles Lindbergh had flown west to east. How dangerous the attempt was is seen in the way the Irish Government insisted that his life be insured for the sake of his wife and daughter. The policy was issued at a premium of 75 per cent of its payoff value.

These aviators hoped to fly from Dublin to New York, but buffeted by winds, they had to make a crash landing in Labrador. There they wandered in the bush for 13 days before they were discovered. Yet all this took place within the life and memory of millions of people upon the earth. In fact, to have been 21 when it is flight took place one would be today only 58 years of age. And that is scarcely old age.

Yet today, when planes fly the score across the Atlantic every day without incident, people in their late fifties can remember when making an Atlantic crossing was a desperate venture, fit only for those of fantastic daring, and deserving the ovation and honours of the world. If Col. Fitzmaurice's magnificent fumbling flight seems a long way from today, after 37 years, how will today's flight appear, 37 years from now? Today's daring and desperate astronauts, and their ovations and honours, will appear even quaint or far sooner.

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