The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Ominous Symptoms

In an interview here yesterday, Mr. J.W. Pickersgill expressed regret that Prime Minister Diefenbaker is receiving "such rough treatment" from some of the crowds he has been addressing across the country. His reference was to the rowdy meetings last week at Vancouver and Chelmsford, Ontario; and he voiced the sentiments expressed the other day by his party leader, Mr. Pearson, when he said that "the Prime Minister of this country should be treated with enough respect when he appears in any Canadian centre to be given a good hearing." They are sentiments which, we think, will be strongly indorsed by the electorate generally.

Judging by newspaper reports, the trouble makers at these meetings were not hecklers in the ordinary sense, bent on questioning and, if possible, embarrassing a visiting politician, while allowing him to answer back. Instead, in their organized demonstrations they appeared determined not to allow Mr. Diefenbaker or his candidates to speak at all. As the Ottawa Citizen says of the Vancouver meeting—and the disturbance at Chelmsford was even more objectionable—"these methods are more suited to Communist or fascist extremists than to people who believe in democratic rights."

Mr. Diefenbaker was invading politically hostile territory at these meetings, and his wisdom in doing so may be open to question. But there can be no question as to his right to a fair hearing on any platform in this country. Again to quote The Citizen (which is no friend of the Diefenbaker Government's) such mob demonstrations "have left a bad taste in everyone's mouth because, in trying to assert their own rights, they trampled on the rights of other people."

We would go further and say that such demonstrations should be helpful, rather than harmful, to any leader or candidate against whom they are directed in this free country. In the denial of the freedom of speech which they constitute they strike at the very roots of our democratic system. The time to eradicate noxious weeds is before they overrun the garden; and there is a moral here which all our political parties would do well to ponder very seriously.

Forbidden Brews

Premier Khrushchev, we note with interest, is directing his missionary zeal against an abuse now prevalent in his Soviet empire. It is one we used to be familiar with here, in Prohibition days. Homebrewing on a large scale is creating drunken habits among his countrymen. They are even said to have considerable bearing on the current failure to produce on the Soviet collective farms, which is probably what worries Mr. Khrushchev most.

To curb this menace, a number of new laws have been enacted. But the courts have shown a marked reluctance to apply them and Judge Solovyev, presiding judge of the Leningrad City Court, angrily declares that this reluctance is the reason why bootlegging has become a large scale criminal activity. The judge let loose his indictment of the farmers, the courts and others in an article in Soviet State and Law, an Academy of Sciences publication.

He tells of what is presumably not an uncommon practice, the allocation by a collective in the Kalinin region of a proportion of its grain production for its illegal homebrew customers in the district. Liquor, of course, is a government monopoly and such crimes are unpatriotic, to say the least. But in the bootleg areas most of the court officials—according to the judge's picture—are themselves regular customers.

Samogon, a vodka made from grain or potatoes, seems to be the favorite bootleg product. Another brew named Chachah, which is distilled from the leavings of wine grapes, is also illegal, as are vodka brewed from mulberry leaves, and arabi, which is distilled from rice and palm juice. A beer called braza, made from bread or grain, another home-brew concoction, is also illegal under the new bootlegging laws.

It will be an uphill job to suppress this traffic, and we wish Mr. Khrushchev more luck in the undertaking than he deserves in some of his other activities.

Mrs. Fairclough's Visit

Among the prominent political spokesmen who are visiting us at this time we give a special salute to the Hon. Ellen Fairclough, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, who is speaking at Montague this evening and who is regarded as one of the most popular members of the Diefenbaker Government. Mrs. Fairclough is not the first lady who has sat in the House of Commons, but she is the first to hold Cabinet rank and she has shown that the feminine touch can be as beneficial there as elsewhere.

Since her entry to the Commons in a by-election in May, 1950, Mrs. Fairclough has been returned in three successive general elections, and the odds are that her constituents in Hamilton West will send her back on this occasion. Her first portfolio was that of Secretary of State, which she held from June, 1957 until May 1958, when she took over her present responsible duties.

Win, lose or draw in this election, the Conservatives set a good precedent by having the fair sex represented in our government. They were fortunate in having so talented a representative available; but henceforth no party will be prepared to admit that it isn't equally blessed in this respect, and we may assume that from now on the precedent will be followed religiously. For Mrs. Fairclough, as the first of her line, there awaits a special niche in Canada's hall of fame.

EDITORIAL NOTES

According to the magazine U.S. News and World Report a dysentery epidemic in East Berlin and the Soviet zone has left more than 35,000 ill. Cause of the epidemic, officials said, has been placed to rotten butter imported from the Soviet Union. It is thought the butter was kept in storage too long.

* * *

Canada's population reached an estimated 18,508,000 on April 1 this year, an increase of 270,000 or 1.5 per cent since the June 1, 1961 count of 18,238,247. The largest numerical provincial increase over the ten-month period was Quebec's 89,000 (1.7 per cent). Ontario gained 85,000 or 1.4 per cent.

* * *

Should members of the United Nations be obligated to pay their fair share of the cost of keeping the peace in the Congo and the Middle East? This question, long a subject of controversy at the U.N. Assembly, has now been passed to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. United States and Russia are appearing before the court, which gives hope that other issues creating tension between the East and the West may be settled in like manner.

* * *

We find our federal election campaigns long and exhausting enough, but in contrast to the year-long political turmoil in presidential election years in the United States they're blissfully short and restful. "It should be instruction for Americans," says an exchange across the border, "to watch a Canadian national election, campaign and all, get wrapped up in just two months. We couldn't match that, but we could beneficially do it a lot more briskly than now by a concerted national effort."

"LESTER!"

TRIAL AT THE HAGUE

World's Most Interesting Lawsuit

Financial Post, Toronto

The world's most interesting lawsuit is in progress before 15 judges at The Hague. Its results will indicate the immediate chances of a rule of law on this planet.

The question, referred to the World Court by the United Nations Assembly, is whether or not UN members may be lawfully assessed for "extraordinary" UN expenses. The U.S. and most of its friends want a yes verdict. Russia is on the other side —and so is France.

Of UN's two budgets one is for ordinary running costs. There is never any difficulty in raising this money. Only now and again does a hard-up member fall a few days behind in its fixed contribution.

U. N. APPEAL BASIS

But financing of military, "peace-keeping" UN operations has been up till now on a kind of United Appeal basis — give what you can, if you want to.

For the Korean War, though allegedly a UN affair, UN itself paid nothing. The U.S. and its allies picked up the bills. For the Congo operation, begun in 1960, there has been an assessment; but it has been blithely ignored by a majority of members, including Russia and France. This is why UN is now nearly $200 million in debt and trying to sell bonds.

In effect the defaulters are now being sued before the World Court, whose judges of 15 different nationalities are sworn to impartiality. The "law" they are asked to interpret is, of course, the UN Charter. Does it, or does it not, authorize the taxing of members for military costs incurred?

NOT CONCLUSIVE

A negative verdict could destroy UN; but an affirmative verdict would not necessarily be conclusive. It has happened that a World Court judgment ordering payment of damages—like the decision against Albania in the Corfu case—has been ignored with impunity. Moscow and Paris could likewise ignore a decision that the Soviet Union and France owe their shares of Congo costs.

But if the World Court says yes to the main question, and if then Russia, France and the others arrange to pay up, this will be an event enormously more important than any cosmonaut's flight, even if he reaches the moon. The trial at The Hague is worth watching.

A Growing Problem

Montreal Gazette

A recent United Nations study estimates that the population of the world has now exceeded the three billion mark. And it seems certain that this population will continue to increase rapidly. In this figure, and in the extent to which it is increasing, there may lie a potential danger greater than that of nuclear weapons.

During the past few weeks, the world has had a glimpse of the tragedy of overpopulation and hunger in the spectacular flight of Chinese people towards Hong Kong. The Chinese population is now estimated to be in the neighborhood of 700 million, and it is growing quickly. The Chinese economy is in a serious state, and there is little prospect of improvement in the near future.

Some people have hoped that conditions in China will eventually produce a revolution that will overthrow the Communist government. And they seem to think that this will bring a vast improvement. But a revolution would not solve the basic Chinese problem — the problem of overpopulation. Wiser policies might ease the problem, but with the Chinese population growing so rapidly, the problem would likely recur.

Nor are other countries in Asia, such as India, immune from this danger, even though they are not yet suffering from its effects in so serious a form.

If the population of the world continues to grow so rapidly during the next one or two decades, it could become the basic problem of humanity, one which could eclipse the ideological conflicts and the threat of nuclear weapons.

Six Hours Of Sleep

National Geographic Society

Eight hours of beauty sleep may someday give way to two hours of electronic rest.

Air Force scientists reported recently that six hours of sleep will be enough for men operating space vehicles. Another theory holds that it isn't the length of sleep that counts but the intensity.

Experimenters believe it is possible to get along on only two or three hours of sleep with the help of an electronic device. It induces deep sleep by means of a mild electric shock passed through electrodes strapped to the temples.

Just how much sleep an individual needs has been debated for centuries.

Famous men who needed only brief amounts of sleep include Goethe, Frederick the Great, Napoleon, Houdini, and Churchhill. Thomas A. Edison got by on four hours a night, though he catnapped during the day.

The inventor of the light bulb predicted a less sleepy future for the world. "Sleep is a heritage from our cave-dwelling days," said Edison. "Now that we've got electric lights, we may be able to change all that."

Valentin Medina Poves, a 62-year-old Spanish farmer, may be the world's most sleepless person. He claims he never has slept a wink in his life.

No one in his home town of La Gineta has ever seen Medina Poves yawn, doze, catnap, or sleep. His mother said she was unable to make him sleep as a baby, and Madrid doctors allegedly have failed with sedatives.

"A genuine case of total insomnia," said a respected Madrid physician.

Sleep, however, is absolutely essential for any normal person. A man may live for six weeks without food, but he would probably die after 10 days if forced to stay awake, experts say.

PROLONGED FAINT

The ancient Greeks thought sleep was a kind of extended fainting spell caused by a decreased flow of blood to the brain. Fifty years ago, a theorist said sleep was the state of being in which the body exhaled waste products and poisons accumulated during waking hours.

Scientists are still uncertain about exactly what causes sleep but they know that sleep is a kind of idling of the body mechanism. Muscles relax, body temperature and blood pressure drop, and the brain waves calm down. It is nature's way of recharging the body's batteries.

In 1950, physicians at the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences reportedly put to sleep a feeble 16-year-old dog named Mika. The little white spaniel slept almost continuously for three months. She was fed intravenously.

Mika awoke bright-eyed and alert, ready to chase cats and stand on her hind legs. She was killed in a fight with a laboratory chimpanzee in 1957, but she already had lived 50 percent longer than her maximum normal life.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(June 5, 1937)

Considerable interest is being taken in the new riding school at Summerside. The school is for ladies, and goes under the name of the Classic Riding School. Lessons are given every evening at the trotting park by competent instructors, and it looks as if the riding habit once so popular with the ladies will return with renewed vigor.

Harold Hughes, Norboro, left a few days ago for Saint John, N.B. where he has a position in the Saint John General Hospital for the summer months. Mr. Hughes has completed his fourth year in medicine at Queens University, Kingston, Ont.

TEN YEARS AGO
(June 5, 1952)

Roy Roper, Central Royalty, left for Montreal on Thursday to join his ship the "Beaverbrae" as radio operator. Mr. Roper a former student at PWC has just finished the course, and graduated from the Vocational School in Saint John, N.B. The Beaverbrae is scheduled to leave for England in a few days.

Mrs. Gordon Rayner, Regent of the Earl of Hillsborough Chapter of the IODE will attend the National convention of the IODE in Niagara Falls, and later will visit her family in Toronto, where she will attend the marriage of her brother, Mr. David Scott.

The Poets Corner

ACROSS THE WIDER OCEANS

There are some ancient, almost
private seas
Small between islands, washing against rock
On which the shadows of low
twisted trees
Trace a grotesque design. Each
rotting dock
Welcomes few ships, but a transparent sky
Still bathes another time with
clear affection,
As pediment and column dignify
The sunlit heights of classic recollection.

Those ancient seas imprisoned by their past
Still beat against the rocks of
stony beaches,
But there are new and longer
shadows cast
By present flesh housing a
dream that reaches
Across the wider oceans from
the fame
Of every island with a storied
name.

—Norma McLain Stoop
in the Christian Science Monitor

SOLDIERS KILLED

NIENBURG, West Germany (Reuters)—Four Dutch soldiers were killed and 16 others badly injured when a German car drove into their marching column near here Monday, the West German news agency DAP reported. Most of the injured soldiers are in critical condition. The Dutch unit, which set out from The Netherlands four days ago, was on its way to a nearby NATO training area when the car tore into it.

Nervousness Cure Requires More Than Pill

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

MRS. J. R. P. writes: Your health hint. "It takes more than a pill to cure nervous disorders," interests me because my husband has been suffering from nerves for 14 years. He has tried different doctors and different pills without relief. He knows the pills aren't helping him yet he clings to them like a drowning man to a piece of rope. It's pathetic."

Essentially, sedatives and tranquilizers offer only temporary relief. After the medication is stopped, symptoms will return so long as the basic cause remains.

An exception is the temporary nervousness associated with a particularly difficult period, such as illness in the family or the death of a spouse. Immediate help is needed — and, after a week or two, the pills are discontinued.

The medications used in the treatment of most nervous disorders are aimed at the manifestations rather than the cause. The purpose is to relieve anxiety, depression, frustration, worry, fatigue, tenseness, and apprehension. Irritability is reduced, emotional outbursts and controlled, and sleep is promoted. In addition, they relax painful spasms and alleviate other forms of bodily distress brought on by nervous conditions.

There is no doubt that drugs of this type are useful because it is difficult to remove the cause of most emotional and neurotic disorders. But the individual ought to do his part by trying to correct defects in personality and learning to take a more mature attitude toward life. It would help to realize that many of these symptoms are a normal response to the anxiety and tension that go with our culture and civilization.

These pills are crutches not cures. They act like aspirin, which is used to lower fever in pneumonia or pain in arthritis. More than this is needed to treat the total disease.

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

BOUTS OF HOARSENESS

Mrs. Z. writes: I used to be a soprano but my voice has lowered a lot because of attacks of hoarseness. I also have a sinus condition. Could this be responsible for hoarseness?

REPLY

Yes—or you may have abused your voice while singing. Consult a nose and throat specialist because your question cannot be answered without looking at the vocal cords. Hoarseness may be caused by one of a number of disorders, varying from slight inflammation to a tumor on a vocal cord.

Today's Heath Hint—

Call your physician when the baby has a severe cold..

NOTES BY THE WAY

A U.S. doctor says that walking in one's sleep is really nothing to worry about. Of course, a lot depends on where one walks to. — Edmonton Journal.

A Baptist minister the Rev. W. D. Jackson, says "Lot's wife looked back and became a pillar of salt. The church would become a pillar of starch."—Peterborough Examiner.

A woman looks at a secret two ways: Either it's not worth keeping or it's too good to keep. — Montreal Star.

"Children's TV shows fail when designed for children only because the writers have a lower intelligence level than children. Children are more sophisticated and smarter than most adults. They know when somebody is being cute and talking down to them." — U.S. Federal Commission hearing.

We have listened many times to Social Credit enthusiasts trying to explain their particular brand of "share the wealth," but although we concentrated until our brain cords were as taut as zither strings we were never able to make sense out of it. Perhaps Socreds are born, not made. — Hamilton Spectator.

Joseph Blasi, dean of elevator operators at the Eiffel Tower, has retired after a lifetime of carrying tourists to the second level of the famous structure. At the retirement ceremonies, the first thing he did was take the elevator to the third level. "I had been so busy on my job that I had never been to see the top of the Eiffel Tower," he explained. — Aurore, Paris.

Magicians and laundries bring forth things you've never seen before. — Calgary Albertan.

The reason why some teenagers are allowed to drive is that they are too young to be safe pedestrians. — Chatham News.

The president of the Nova Scotia Medical Society says politicians should have their heads examined. Some campaign-wary candidates may agree.—Ottawa Journal.

A music shop on the Champs Elysees now gives a gift to each purchaser of a twist recording. The gift: a small bottle of liniment. — Figaro, Paris

The French have a very logical way in dealing with young trouble-makers. They have been known to use it in cases of strikes or other such troubles. They simply conscript the culprite into the army.

We wonder what it does for the morale of the regular army. — Windsor Star.

Balding men and bald spots in the lawn have much in common — both can be repaired with transplants. Dr. Norman Orentreich of New York University, speaking at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology, described an office procedure to correct male baldness. A skin biopsy punch is used to transplant plugs of hair from the posterior scalp to bald areas. Healing requires two to three weeks. New hair, identical to that from the donor site, appears two to three months after autografting. — Modern Medicine.

Older Drivers Have Rights

Prince Albert Herald

The Canadian Highway Safety Conference delegates in Regina discussed the problems posed by older drivers, a problem only second in importance to that created by the young drivers.

Delegates were told that older drivers are becoming more numerous as people are enjoying a longer life. One member of the panel, E. H. S. Piper of Montreal, counsel for the All-Canada Insurance Federation, said older drivers must prepare themselves for the day they can't or won't be permitted to drive vehicles. "They should arrange their lives so they will not finally be dependent upon the motor car for transportation."

We cannot agree with the all-inclusiveness of the statement.

There are many older drivers who are as capable of operating a motor vehicle as anyone else.

The Saskatchewan and B. C. plans whereby older drivers must submit to a test to determine their ability to control and operate a vehicle are not only laudable but sensible and should be adopted in all provinces.

Mr. Piper may not be suggesting that there should be an age limit for driving but the reported statement made it appear he would favor such a move.

Age has little to do with ability to operate a motor vehicle.

There are many classes of persons who should not be given a driver's licence.

Publicity on the value of safety belts recently related the tale of a man who had twice fainted while strapped in his safety belt. The belt saved his life. Fortunately, no one else was involved in this man's two mishaps. In view of his apparent physical disability, should that man be allowed to drive again?

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