

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew
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"The strongest memory is weaker than
the weakest ink."

Hospital Insurance

Since the Federal Government has decided that it cannot set a precedent by agreeing to the Prince Edward Island hospital insurance scheme on what it considers to be a purely voluntary basis, no more time should be lost in amending the provisions. According to Premier Matheson, this will not involve calling the Legislature into special session, as the mandatory clauses can be inserted in the agreement without changing the legislation. That, we imagine, will come as a surprise to many of those who voted on this measure in the House.

A proposal made to the Provincial Government by federal officials for inclusion of a mandatory clause in the Act was, it will be recalled, submitted to the House last March, and was turned down. The legislation then passed on what most, at least, of the members thought was a voluntary basis, pure and simple. The Opposition warned against the inadequacy of the provisions, and the danger of them being unacceptable to Ottawa. Later, some time after the House had prorogued, the Provincial Health Minister announced that the regulations, drafted on the authority of the Act, could provide for compulsory premium collections if this course was found necessary. We commented at the time on this extraordinary statement, but we were assured that it was quite justified, as the Act did not specifically state whether the collections were to be voluntary or otherwise and the Hospital Commission would be competent to determine this matter when the scheme went into effect.

Apparently Ottawa was not satisfied with this assurance and insisted on having the mandatory provisions in the agreement. This the Provincial Government has agreed to, and the Hospital Commission has been directed to proceed on this basis. It is to be hoped that this will prove satisfactory and that there will be no further hitch in the arrangements for bringing the plan into operation on October 1. If there should be further difficulties it will be the provincial authorities who must take full responsibility. It was their duty to inform themselves of the federal requirements from the outset, and draft the scheme accordingly.

Disappointing Statement

We are still in the dark as to the reasons for the Federal Government's action in turning down the proposal to purchase the "Vacationland" for the Borden-Tormentine service. According to yesterday's story from Ottawa a statement on the matter is expected from the Government in the next day or two. It had better be good. There is keen disappointment here over the rejection of the plans for using this Michigan vessel, which appears to be well suited to our requirements.

As pointed out in the report prepared for the Provincial Government by Mr. Scott, the Vacationland has been in "moth balls" for a year and a half, and not having been in drydock since 1954 would require close inspection by marine surveyors. The matter of lifeboats and cooling water for the diesels would also have to be gone into. But docking provisions would afford no great problem and the boat—available for about \$3,000,000—would cost in the vicinity of \$8,000,000 if built at present-day prices. The federal statement therefore, that apart from the purchase price it would cost about \$1,000,000 in repairs and renovation, hardly adds up to a good and sufficient reason for turning down the proposal.

When Hon. Angus MacLean was here recently, he stated that two engineers from the Canadian Maritime Commission were examining the Michigan boat and would report to the Federal Transport Minister. We may assume that it is on the basis of this report that the proposal has

been rejected. In any case, we trust that the full report of these officials will now be made available. Construction of a new boat is something that this Province would welcome if it were not for the long delay which would take place before we got a substantially improved service. The need for this improvement is urgent today. We are assured that this fact has been impressed upon the Transport Minister by our federal representatives, as it has been by the Legislature and by Premier Matheson personally. The newspapers of the Province have urged it with equal unanimity. We expect, therefore, to have this problem taken into account and discussed fully by the Minister when he makes his statement. There can be no excuse for ignoring it.

Rocket To Venus?

Now it's the planet Venus that Soviet scientists may be training their sights on. According to the National Geographic Society, the U. S. Aeronautics and Space Administration had hoped to launch Venus-bound rockets in June, 1959, but technical difficulties forced a delay, perhaps for a year or two. Future Venus shots will depend on the planet's position in space, as well as the success of rocket experts in overcoming engineering obstacles for a journey that probably will take more than 150 days.

Venus is so similar to Earth in size, brilliance, and density that it is called "Earth's Twin Sister." It outglitters everything in the night sky except the moon, and is bright enough to cast a shadow. Sometimes it is visible even at noonday. Several flying saucer reports have been traced to observations of the brilliant planet. Yet it has a dense atmosphere, which telescopes cannot penetrate. Hence opinions differ widely on what the surface may be like.

A few astronomers believe Venus is covered by jungles of incredible density. Others doubt that any life exists there. They say spectroscopic studies indicate that while Venus has much carbon dioxide in its atmosphere, there is little or no free oxygen and almost no water. U.S. Navy scientists have reported that the planet sends out a continuous radio wave caused by thermal energy, which may indicate a temperature exceeding that of melting lead. Such a temperature would seem to rule out the possibility of oceans.

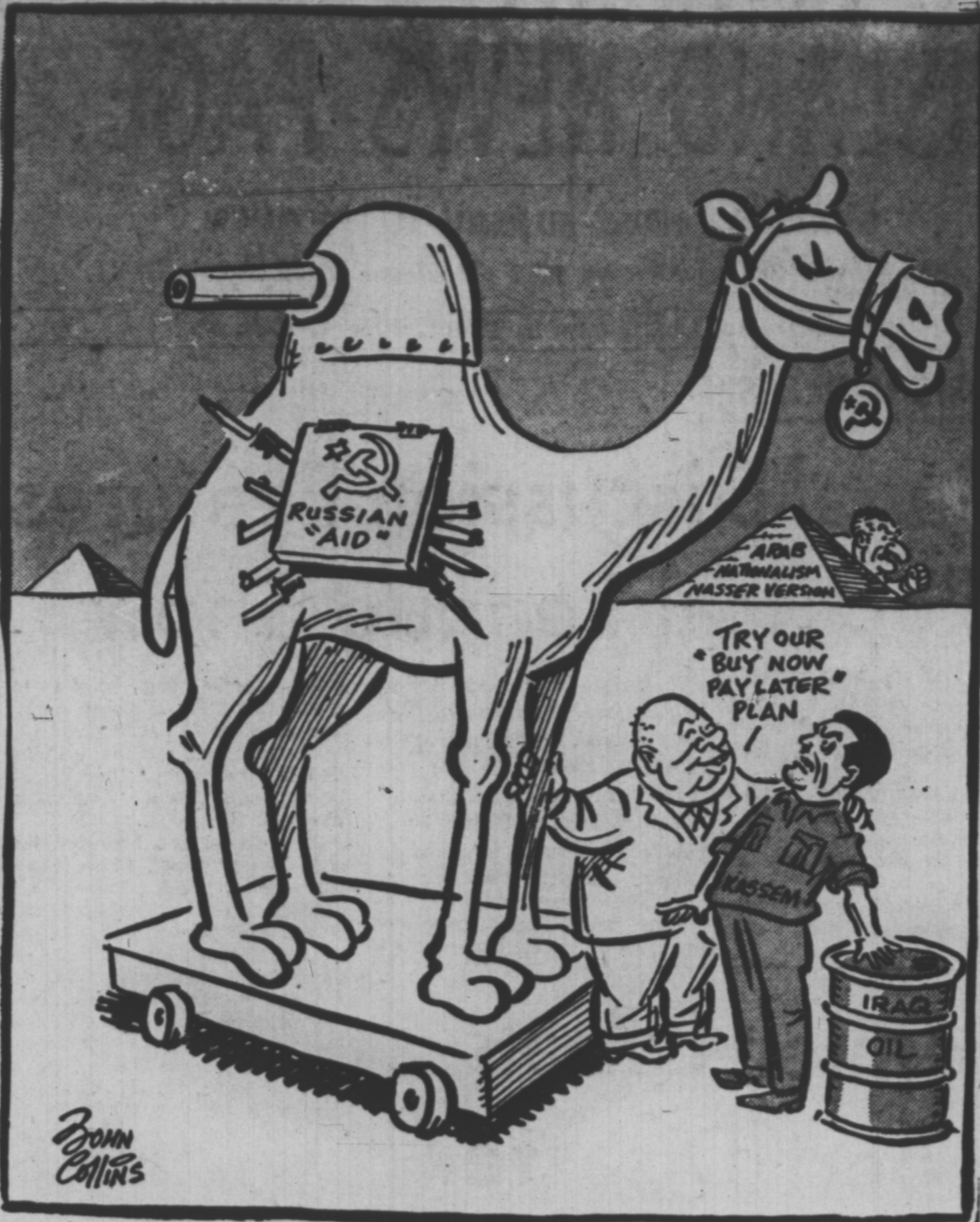
Man's ignorance of Venus is dramatized by the fact that no one yet knows exactly how fast the planet rotates. A Venusian day has been variously estimated as lasting from 20 to 225 earthly days. If the 225-day figure is correct, Venus would rotate only once while making a complete orbit round the sun. Next to Mercury, it is the planet closest to the sun; the distance is only 67 million miles, compared to 93 million for the Earth. At times Venus swings within 25 million miles of our planet. Thus it is Earth's nearest neighbor in space apart from the moon and an occasional comet or asteroid.

EDITORIAL NOTES

That was a generous action of the Maritime Central Airways in presenting a cheque for \$5,000 to the Association for Retarded Children. The money will pay for a campsite at Oyster Bed Bridge, already acquired by the organization. We can think of no donation more likely to return dividends in health and happiness to the recipients.

The Ontario Liberal Association has fallen on evil days. Faced on the eve of a general provincial election with depleted funds, it has had to curtail its campaign advertising extensively. According to Mr. Dan Lang, the association's treasurer, the Federal Liberal Party has been unable to contribute and local donations have been fewer than expected. Oh, well, the Tories will win anyway!

It is gratifying to note the assurance given at the Maritime Transportation Commission meeting that rail rates will be sharply reduced for the fall shipping season on potatoes and turnips to the New England States. This is a matter on which the Commission has been working for some time, and it is one of the many ways in which it serves the interests of these Atlantic Provinces. It is fortunate in having such a capable and experienced executive manager as Mr. Howard Mann.



THE TROJAN CAMEL

OTTAWA REPORT

Britain's Booming Economy

By Patrick Nicholson

Reports reaching Ottawa this Spring suggested that Britain's economy is booming to record heights. This, coupled with Britain's promise at last year's Montreal Economic Conference to ease restrictions against Canadian exports as soon as possible, suggested to me that our greatest unwritten news story might be of attractive new export opportunities in the British market.

When I recently visited Britain to study this trade possibility, I found that Britain is indeed booming, as never before in living memory. Record industrial output, soaring exports and minimum unemployment are the statistical evidence of her prosperity. Visible evidence is on all sides: attractive "New Towns" sprouting amid pleasant green farmlands; broad new traffic thoroughways being carved across old residential suburbs; the highways jammed with shiny new little cars; modern office blocks towering above the historic "little Wren" churches and other ancient buildings in the City of London; shops full of goods, often of a slightly higher quality and generally at lower prices than in Canada. There are plenty of Old World antiques for sale, but-and this will interest our manufacturers—very few new World electrical household goods.

THOSE TERRIBLE TAXES
To Canadian eyes, the worst feature about modern Britain is the truly crushing degree of taxation, necessary to pay for two World Wars and for the post-war Welfare State. The tax on personal incomes soars above 45 per cent at the \$5,000 income level, and rises to the confiscatory scale of 88.75 per cent at \$18,000. On top of that comes the Purchase Tax which, despite big reductions in the recent budget, is still as high as 50 per cent on many items, including the popular small cars which can hardly be classed as luxuries.

A successful bread-winner in the top tax bracket has to earn \$15,067 to be able to buy a typical little English car off the top of his income. Of that sum, 13,929 is taken from him in income tax and purchase tax, while the remaining \$1,128 pays for the car itself.

At the more usual end of the wage scale, a typical semi-skilled worker in one of the "New Towns" earns \$44 a week. This seems to us, but his modern state-owned three-bedroom house costs him as little as \$5.45 a week in rent, while fresh eggs, a typical food, cost only 40 cents a dozen.

Under Mr. Harold Macmillan's Conservative Government, the average British family today enjoys a standard of living far higher than that advocated before the war by the Socialist Party. Ample evidence of many of the good things of life are now available to a wider range of the population than ever before. Strangely enough, it is only in the Democratic New World that the successful businessman can now keep a reasonable part of his high earnings for himself, while in that Conservative Old Country tax-theater grows the greater part. Thus Britain's economic revolution has been achieved at the cost of eliminating great inherited wealth, and making impossible the creation of new fortunes out of earned income.

MARKET FOR CANADA
That newly-prosperous Britain, with its new mass market for goods other than life's necessities and with its growing supply of dollars, now offers a wide-open market to many Canadian exports, although some of our traditional surpluses are now priced too high to compete in Britain.

That market has been opened by Britain's recent elimination of all restrictions on the purchase of consumer goods in many categories from the dollar area. This step, correctly foreseen several weeks ago by this column, was announced in Parliament here last week by Trade

Minister Gordon Churchill. Not yet announced, but of interest to our exporters, will be the similar relaxation of trade barriers against Canadian goods by the British West Indies.

A direct result of the Commonwealth Economic Conference

Unrest In Latin America

By Joseph MacSweeney
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Acts of violence in Nicaragua, Paraguay, Argentina and Peru are manifestations of a continuing revolution in Latin America, a continent of nearly 200,000,000 people.

Political and social change plus grinding economic problems are the roots of unrest below the Rio Grande. And the success of Fidel Castro's revolution in Cuba has had a tonic effect in the few countries where dictators remain.

RULERS OVERTHROWN
Six other Latin American dictators have been overthrown in the last five years.

Political affairs came to a boil at the beginning of this year when Cuba's dictator Fulgencio Batista ran from Castro. Then, in February, Romulo Betancourt took office as president of Venezuela, whose dictator had been thrown out earlier.

Castro and Betancourt held a much-publicized meeting in Caracas and soon after Luis Somoza became convinced that his administration was marked for overthrow by the so-called Caracas group. He was then embroiled in a quarrel with neighboring Honduras and his regime was under propaganda attacks by a powerful Caracas radio station.

Currently, the most spectacular events are taking place in Nicaragua, where President Luis Somoza has been challenged by an actual—if small—invasion by irregular forces from neighboring Costa Rica, a centre for anti-authoritarian elements since overthrowing its dictator in 1948. Somoza inherited a dictatorial regime from his father, Gen. Anastasio Somoza, assassinated in 1956.

On that day Strossner dissolved the House of Representatives after it had protested police repression of demonstrations by students protesting increased transportation costs.

Since then the dictator, whose army is tough if ill-equipped, has jailed scores of leaders of his own Colorado Party and moved cavalry troops into the capital, Asuncion, to keep order. Thousands of Paraguayan exiles live just across the Argentine border, hoping some day to invade their homeland.

Argentina, meanwhile, has itself been the scene of riots and wholesale arrests resulting from a strike of bank employees. The government of President Arturo Frondizi has been trying to enforce an austerity campaign and repair the economic chaos that followed the exile of former dictator Juan Peron in 1955.

A new wave of inflation—the cost of living has gone up 40 per cent since last December—is plaguing Frondizi's program while labor unions, some under Peronist and Communist influence, are demanding increased wages.

Wild Mushrooms Always Unsafe

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.
DO YOU like mushrooms? Fine, so do I.
But let's get them from the local grocery or supermarket.
It is time for my annual warning to you vacationers about the dangers of picking wild mushrooms.

As far as the average person is concerned, there is no safe method you can use in determining which mushrooms are poisonous and which are edible. Leave this to the experts.

SOME MISINFORMATION
I know you have heard that "safe" mushrooms grow in one place while the poisonous variety grows in another. And, no doubt, you have heard other tales about good and bad mushrooms, such as peeling the skin, larding with a silver spoon, taste, color, and so on.

You can't depend upon any one of them to give you an accurate appraisal of the edibility of a mushroom. In fact, some of these stories are completely untrue.

So let's play it safe this summer.

MOST DANGEROUS
The most dangerous mushroom is an almost pure white variety called the Amanita phalloides or Destroying Angel.

The gills of this species are also white. This is in sharp contrast to the gills of the Agaricus campestris, the most commonly eaten mushroom, which

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(June 4, 1934)

The target house at the Dominion Rifle Range, Summerside, with all its contents was burned to the ground yesterday afternoon. The fire was prevented from spreading to the nearby woods by the quick action of the Mounted Police although they were unable to save the building or its contents.

Messrs Lloyd Matheson and William Chandler, West Kent students, returned yesterday afternoon after an enjoyable trip to the western part of the province. They left by bicycle Saturday morning and travelled to Bradshaw, Margate and Malpeque before returning home.

TEN YEARS AGO
(June 4, 1949)

Work on the new Tourist Bureau, sponsored by the Summerside Board of Trade, was begun yesterday morning at Reed's Corner. Mr. Vaughan Groom, chairman of the tourist and publicity committee, said that the work would be rushed to completion by June 15th in order to have the Bureau open for the accommodation of the tourists.

Resolutions empowering the executive to secure and appoint a full time Field Commissioner and authorizing the Financial Committee to proceed with plans to raise funds to meet expenses in connection with such an appointment, highlighted a well attended meeting of the Provincial Boy Scouts Association in Charlottetown last night.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Don't be embarrassed if yours is the smallest big car in the neighborhood, just claim that it's the largest small car.

Have you ever noticed that the guests who hire baby sitters by the hour are never the last to leave?—Elkhorn Independent

Isn't it remarkable that we achieved and are maintaining a high level of prosperity through the simple expedient of charging one another too much for goods and services?—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

While you are waiting for his arrival, try to dilute the poison as much as possible and induce vomiting.

SOME ANTIDOTES
Give the victim from four to seven glasses of soapy water, salt water, dish water or water containing baking soda.

The water should be lukewarm, but don't waste time heating it. If nothing else is available, give him plain lukewarm water.

Then, tickle the back of the victim's throat with your finger, to cause vomiting. Next, admin-

ister repeated enemata.

Also, give him one ounce of Epsom salt mixed in water by mouth if the victim is an adult and one-third to two-thirds of the solution if he is a child.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
A Reader: I have a ringing noise in my right ear. It may stop for an hour and then start again. I've also noticed a soreness in my neck.

Do you think I should see a regular doctor or an ear specialist?
Answer: You should definitely see your family physician first, and he will determine whether to refer you to a specialist.

The Age Old Story

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Tests during 1958 in major potato areas compared the blight controlling ability of DITHANE M-22 and of nabam. Late blight was severe in two of the areas; early blight in one.

The conclusions reached by the scientists confirm the results obtained by the many growers who also compared the performance of DITHANE M-22 and nabam.

At intervals of seven days, DITHANE M-22 (1 1/2 pounds/acre) gave better control of late blight than DITHANE D-14 (2 quarts/acre). At intervals of ten days the superiority of DITHANE M-22 was outstanding. Similar advantages in early blight control with DITHANE M-22 were noted.

Yields were significantly higher where better blight control was obtained with DITHANE M-22. In the plots protected at 7-day intervals, DITHANE M-22 outyielded DITHANE D-14 from 20 to 70 bushels per acre.

These facts prove that DITHANE M-22 is superior to nabam in controlling early and late blight. Equally important, DITHANE M-22 gives you stand-by protection—protection to carry your vines safely past emergencies when the interval between sprays must be lengthened. We think you will find DITHANE M-22 truly a milestone in potato blight control.

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