The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

W.J. Hancox, Publisher

Burton Lewis, Executive Editor — Frank Walker, Editor

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That Pensions Boost

Good luck to Welfare Minister Wedge and Provincial Treasurer Farmer in their efforts, at the federal-provincial conference next week, to have the Pearson Government implement immediately its promised $10 increase in old age pensions. They may be joined in this request by representatives of some of the other provinces. However, the chances are that our old age pensioners will have to wait for this bonus, at least until around the first of next year.

That is what Federal Health Minister Judy LaMarsh has indicated, and both she and Prime Minister Pearson have insisted that Liberal campaign pledges did not involve any immediate increase in these payments. It is part of an overall plan for a national contributory (and compulsory) scheme which will depend on contributions of up to two per cent of earnings of about 7,000,000 Canadian contributors to cover benefits up to 1975—assuming the people of Ontario and Quebec are not contracted out of the plan. If they do not participate it is doubtful if the scheme would be economically feasible.

The Island delegation to the Ottawa conference has been instructed to seek full details of the federal plan. It is to provide such details that the meeting is being called. Our Island delegates will probably not be the only ones who will particularly want to know how a national scheme of this kind can be financed on the basis of two per cent of earnings—one per cent from the employee, the other from the employer.

As pointed out by Mr. Wedge in his interview yesterday, the cost of the United States plan is much higher than this. But as we understand it, the Pearson Government proposal is not an attempt to duplicate the American system but rather a scheme to retain the Canadian flat-rate pensions and built a contributory pension on top of it. Thus, the flat-rate pension of $65 would continue to be financed by taxes—3 per cent of corporation income and 3 per cent of imports and manufacturers' sales.

Under the new scheme contributions would start from employees and employers in October, 1964, at the earliest. The Government would then start paying benefits, related to the length and amount of contributions. For those who had no chance to contribute, the flat-rate pensions would be boosted to $75 monthly.

This, as we say, is how we understand it. It's a complicated matter, and perhaps we've gotten it all wrong. In any case it would seem that a great many voters got the impression, from Liberal campaigners in the last election, that the $10 boost in old age pensions would be paid promptly, regardless of how long it took to bring the rest of the scheme into effect. It won't do any harm to remind Miss LaMarsh of this at the coming conference.

The Florida Plan

The unprecedented problem created by the record high school attendance at Prince of Wales College is one which schools and colleges are facing across the country, and in the United States as well. It is a result not only of increased population, but of greater appreciation of the need for education, and on this ground is to be welcomed. But the mounting cost of keeping pace with education is forcing governments to take a new look at the possibilities of using more adequately the facilities they have.

The latest program to be planned along this line is in the state of Florida, where the authorities have announced that there will be a school year of 11 months with both Saturday and evening classes; yet neither teachers nor students will attend more than a normal school year. Fewer barriers will block the child's progress and both muscles and mind are to be kept busy.

Under the Florida plan each subject is to be treated as an entity, other than social studies where there is grouping according to age and normal grade level. The school year will commence today and continue until August 9 with the interval divided into three 75-day terms called trimesters. The first is September 6 to December 2, the second January 7 to April 23, and the third in two parts, April 29 to June 14 and June 17 to August 9. The youngsters must attend the first two and the first of the third with the balance optional.

Pupils do not fail a subject, they just keep on with it until they are competent to go on in the next grade. There is no grade skipping because they are always working at their own achievement level. Vacations may be during Summer or Fall as best suits. There are no accelerated classes since they move along as they progress. There is no pushing children ahead since they must spend a full eight calendar years in completing the first eight grades and also attend 20 trimesters.

The system will give greater use of facilities by more students, and many social activities will be diverted to allow more genuine school work. The achievement standard is expected to be better and more uniform.

This should be an experiment worth watching, analyzing, and profiting from.

Fish Flour Research

Of interest to those concerned with fish processing possibilities here is the latest news about the production of high-protein fish flour for export to developing countries. It comes from Edinburgh, where the sixth International Congress on Nutrition was held recently, and where over 1,800 delegates from 55 countries saw loaves of bread containing the protein powder, and showed great interest in the product.

The display was put on by a Scottish firm—the Caledonian Fish Meal Company of Aberdeen—which claims it can produce the powder cheap enough to sell at 2d (about 2 cents) an ounce. Half an ounce is considered sufficient to meet the protein needs of one person for 24 hours.

Research on the powder, refined by a secret process from ordinary fish meal, has taken 20 years. The product has an 80 per cent protein content, and its presence in neutral-tasting food is barely detectable except by color. In spiced foods or curry dishes its presence is entirely camouflaged.

News of the process has given a considerable fillip to Scotland's fishing industry which has long hoped for a profitable method of using fish by-products. The Scottish firm has been given backing by the British White Fish Authority, and is confident that its product will find a growing market overseas.

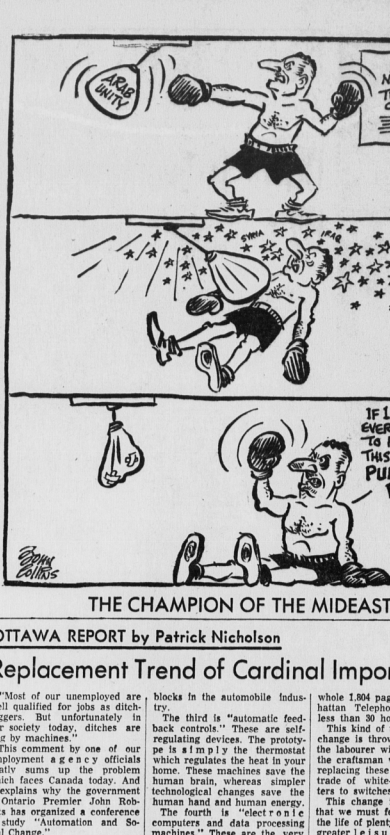
As the firm's manager told the nutrition congress, "If we can produce food for animals from this source, as we now do, then we should also be producing it as quickly as possible for human beings."

EDITORIAL NOTES

According to Ontario Liberal Leader John Wintermeyer, the hippopotamus "is a perfect symbol of the Tory Party in Ontario today—fat, flabby and yawning." As the Hamilton Spectator says, Mr. Wintermeyer may have to eat those words, especially if he didn't smile when he said them.

* * *

A North American Indian named Chief Spotted Back walked through London's fashionable West End recently, resplendent in buckskin and full eagle-feather war bonnet. He made one concession to his surroundings and to the English climate—he carried an umbrella. Spotted Back was a member of a delegation from Nebraska, promoting trade and tourists to that state.



THE CHAMPION OF THE MIDEAST

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Replacement Trend of Cardinal Importance

"Most of our unemployed are well qualified for jobs as ditch-diggers. But unfortunately in our society today, ditches are dug by machines."

This comment by one of our employment agency officials neatly sums up the problem which faces Canada today. And it explains why the government of Ontario Premier John Robarts has organized a conference to study "Automation and Social Change."

Man is gradually being replaced by the machine in most fields of production. The machine is harder working; it is quicker; it is more accurate; it can work longer hours; its per unit cost of production is lower; and it doesn't collectively demand higher wages every year.

We have seen this replacement trend creeping up on us for a long time under the name of "mechanization." Now a brain has been added to the muscles of the machine, and the new trend is called "automation" and it is progressing faster.

WHAT IS AUTOMATION?

Just how is the new breed of brainy machines creating "technological changes" in our industries? I addressed this question to Hon. Leslie Rowntree, Minister of Labour in the Ontario Government, who is prominent in urging the need for and in promoting this month's conference on automation, to be held in Toronto on 17, 18 and 19 September.

Four main types of automation have been distinguished, Mr. Rowntree told me.

The first is "automatic machinery". This is really just an advanced stage of mechanization.

The second is "integrated material handling and processing equipment." The new element here is the integration of several machines with one another, and the use of elaborate automatic machines for handling materials. Perhaps the best example is the great automatic process for machining engine blocks in the automobile industry.

The third is "automatic feedback controls." These are self-regulating devices. The prototype is simply the thermostat which regulates the heat in your home. These machines save the human brain, whereas simpler technological changes save the human hand and human energy.

The fourth is "electronic computers and data processing machines." These are the very symbol of automation.

MATING OF MACHINES

We are now in the era of the mating of machines. The muscles of mechanization are being wedded to the brains of automation. Typical of the children of this Cold Love Age is a U.S. robot called "Zip." This consists of an electronic brain which can remember, select and give orders; it bosses a typesetter. The combination can set type to order at the terrifying speed of 450 letters per second. At this speed, "Zip" could so far outpace man that it could set the whole 1,804 pages of the Manhattan Telephone Directory in less than 30 hours.

This kind of technological change is throwing out of work the labourer with no skill and the craftsman with skill. It is replacing these men by a new trade of white-coated baby-sitters to switches.

This change is not something that we must fear. It promises the life of plenty and the life of greater leisure. But we must prepare for this. Essentially, we must prepare our children to take their full place in this Brave New World; we must also arrange to retrain today's workers who would otherwise be tomorrow's unemployment statistics.

This is why so much importance attaches to, and should deservedly be stirred up by, North America's first full-fledged conference of government, management and labour, summoned by Premier Robarts in Ontario to study "Automation and Social Change."

The Poets Corner

A POET'S PRAYER

To live, to feel, to be aware,
To know the sun and moody sea,
To sense the seasons' subtle change,
Lord, keep these precious gifts with me.

To hear the master's violin
And robin's song in early spring,
The laughter of a little child
Or winter sleigh bells' merry ring.

To taste, in season, yellow corn
And apples fresh from off the tree,
A mother's wholesome home-made bread
And berries growing wild and free.

To see white clouds and skies of blue,
And ocean's waters, sparkling bright,
Rich hues of autumn- colored leaves,
The moon and twinkling stars at night.

To smell the country's sweet cut hay,
The pungent burning leaves in fall
And lilacs' heavy fragrant scent
But tiny may flowers most of all.

To feel the wind about my head
And cooling rain drops on my face,
To touch the velvet- petaled rose
And know an infant's tight embrace.

And one more thing I ask of Thee—
Contented, peaceful quiet time—
To try to praise Thy priceless gifts
In humble poet's simple rhyme.

—Bert Foster
Charlottetown.

Ocean's Samaritans

National Geographic Society

Life underwater is not all dog-fish-eat-dogfish. The ocean world has its good Samaritans who often stand to gain from their altruism.

Several species of fish, shrimp and crabs nibble at parasites and bacterial infections on larger fish. Some even perform minor surgery, gnawing off unhealthy tissue.

In return they get food, and, most of the time, immunity from attack by their predator-hosts.

SAFE FROM BARRACUDA

The Spanish hogfish (Bodianus rufus), a brightly colored variety of wrasse, can swim with impunity in the very jaws of the voracious barracuda, calmly picking away at food particles in the fish's teeth.

Divers have observed crowds of goatfish, opaleye, topsmelt, and blacksmith patiently waiting their turn to be cleaned by a senorita fish a golden - brown wrasse (Oxyjulis californica).

While the wrasse nibbled daintily along its flanks, the blacksmith fish remained motionless in awkward positions — head down, or up, and even upside down.

The late Dr. William Beebe observed a similar phenomenon in waters near Bermuda.

In his book Half Mile Down, Dr. Beebe related: "After browsing on living coral the greenhooded parrotfish (Pseudoscarus guacamaia) upends a mid-water and allows the numerous small wrasse which collect to clean its teeth and scales of adhering debris. The kindness is reciprocal, for much of the coral detritus is edible to the smaller fish."

Another species of wrasse, the lipfish (Labroides dimidiatus), cleans the mouth parts and gill-covers of large ocean fish. Senorita fish are often sought out by sea bass, the mammoth ocean sunfish (Mola mola), and the bat ray for similar grooming.

Cleaning fish and shrimp sometimes have permanent stations known to other fish who go there as a matter of routine.

ANGLEFISH "BARBERS"

Among the cleaners scientists have observed six species of shrimp, one crab, and 28 species of fish, including the butterfly fish (Chaetodo, nigrirostris), neon gobies (Elecatinus oceanops), and an angelfish known in Mexico as "The Barber" because it grooms other fish.

In tropical waters the cleaners advertise their presence by their bright coloration. In colder waters further north and south, the cleaners are drab, and more likely to end up in the stomachs of their beneficiaries.

Describing the cleaning wrasse, Dr. Beebe wrote that "Nature must have relegated the coloring of some of these fish to an amateur assistant, for it was crude, blatant and, judged by human ideas of ornamentation, in exceedingly bad taste. Yet as I saw it— a living organism—winding in and out of dark crevices... it seemed rather an exquisite mass of pale-blue splashes."

Because cleaners are generally left alone by predators, other fish have adopted their coloration for protection. Apisdontus rhinorhynchus looks like an ordinary cleaner wrasse. But when a fish approaches to be cleaned, Aspidontus bites.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(September 6, 1953)

The Island Open Horseshoe Tournament will open at the Brighton Horseshoe Club this evening, following the club's final match between Keith Daziel and Ambrose Doyle.

A change in banking hours in Charlottetown will give employees a long weekend as starting on September 19 all banks in the city will remain closed Saturday mornings. The Friday hours will be lengthened, they will be from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

TEN YEARS AGO
(September 6, 1953)

The attractive home and grounds of Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Crosby, St. Eleanors, presented a pretty sight on Wednesday, when a large number of people attended a Japanese Tea, arranged by Mrs. Crosby in aid of the St. Eleanors Hall. Mrs. Crosby received some fine compliments on the success of the affair and particularly on her lovely flowers.

Mr. S. Haywood, noted American baritone of New York, who is touring the Maritimes, sang as a special solo, "A Child of the King" by Sumner, in St. Paul's Anglican Church at the Sunday evening service. He was accompanied by Miss Lillian Earle, church organist.

GETS FAIR POST

OTTAWA (CP)—Henri Parizeau, supervisor of special events for the CBC's French-language television network, has been appointed CBC liaison officer to the Montreal world's fair administration, it was announced Thursday.

The FLYING DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT
"Your Island Steak House"

Usefulness Seen Old Age Tonic

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

LONELINESS IS one of the greatest problems of the aged. It brings unhappiness and often is a precursor of a mental or physical illness. The most common cause is neglect, even when living with relatives, but more often when living in an institution.

In some instances, loneliness stems from bereavement following the loss of a partner. A man with all his wits may feel lost when he looks upon himself as deliberately cut off by those from whom he received love and friendship. This happens to retired people when divorced from previous major associations and interests. The changed attitudes of families towards grandparents also plays a role; nowadays they seldom occupy a place of affection and respect in the family circle.

What can others do to make life more enjoyable and happy for the oldster? The biggest boost comes from creating a feeling of usefulness. This will help maintain and intensify the desire to live. These aims can be realized by providing goals, hobbies, and opportunities to develop social activities with other men and women.

Meanwhile, discourage feelings of hopelessness, rejection, and loneliness. For some grandparents this means bringing them back into the family circle. Better and more suitable institutions help others. Social clubs outside the institution where the man or woman can fraternize often prove invigorating.

For some reason the idea is prevalent that older people like to move to the country, with great open spaces and sunny porches. But they want company and activity — not a pasture. In this respect, institutions or housing projects in the center of town are preferred. Above all, do not hinder older people in their battle to maintain dignity and self-respect. Avoid terms such as "old age pensioner" and "employment of the elderly."

Fear also is a problem as the elderly become more aware that every day brings them closer to one of the greatest mysteries of life. Competent spiritual advice will help in dealing with the uncertainties and problems of the future.

Money is not the answer to all of the problems of the old-timers. The majority no longer are in receipt of a regular income. Larger pensions may create a feeling of independence but will not overcome loneliness or fear.

PREVENTION NOT EASY

K.J. writes: How can a stroke be prevented?

REPLY

A stroke follows a hemorrhage into or obstruction of an artery leading to the brain. The only suggestions I can make are those directed toward the prevention of hardening of these vessels. This is difficult to do except perhaps to avoid or treat obesity, high blood pressure, and too much cholesterol in the blood.

ARTHRITIS AND BLOOD PRESSURE

P.M. writes: Does hypertension cause or aggravate arthritis?

REPLY

No, and arthritis may help lower high blood pressure by reducing activity.

A METABOLIC DISEASE

K.H. writes: Is diabetes classed as a disease?

REPLY

Yes — a chronic disease of carbohydrate (sugar) metabolism.

SINUS AND SWELLING

H.W. writes: Could sinus trouble cause the nose to get larger

REPLY

No, but the nose swells occasionally when a cold exists.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Try smiling; try laughing.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Guest: "Do you run a taxi between the hotel and the railway station?" Proprietor: "No, sir." Guest: "That's strange. All my friends said you would get me coming and going."— Montreal Gazette.

Next year's automobiles produced in Canada will have seat belts as standard equipment. Whether they will be used by the young things who snuggle beside the driver is an open question.— Fort William Times - Journal.

Verwoerd's Proposal

By Jim Peacock
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Opposition to Premier Hendrik Verwoerd's racial-separation practices in South Africa make it almost a foregone conclusion that his suggestion to have his country take over administration of three neighboring British protectorates will be rejected out of hand.

Verwoerd suggested that Britain hold a plebiscite in Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Basutoland to allow the 1,200,000 inhabitants to decide whether they wanted — in Verwoerd's words—to "prosper" as part of South Africa or face "economic decay" under the British.

His proposal would turn the three into so-called "Bantustans," or self-governing all-Negro states along the lines he proposed for sections of South Africa under his apartheid—racial separation—policies.

One British source said the proposal is "quite out of court," explaining that the British stand is unaltered from 1954 when Sir Winston Churchill, then prime minister, said the issue of the sovereignty of the three territories was a matter for the territories to decide and the British Parliament to approve.

APARTHEID OPPOSED

The same reaction is likely to be common in most parts of the Western world and especially among the newly-independent nations of Africa—but the reason here lies in opposition to Verwoerd's racial policies.

Verwoerd's statement that "Britain may be the guide to their political freedom but it is powerless in respect of their eventual economic freedom" contains certain truths.

Basutoland, with 642,000 residents, is surrounded by South African territory, and Swaziland, with about 300,000 population, and Bechuanaland, with 320,000 inhabitants, border on South Africa. Their geographic locations dictate certain economic dependence on South Africa.

However, the political aspects of the situation are likely to carry more weight today in a world being made more and more conscious of racial problems.

Britain's House of Commons has been suspicious of any hints of the protectorates being put under this apartheid policy and Labor MP Fenner Brockway indicated promptly that the government would face strong opposition at home to any move to accept Verwoerd's proposal now.

Brockway said the Verwoerd proposal applies "as fully as ever the principle of racial segregation and apartheid" and it should not be contemplated.

FURTHER SUSPICION

Further suspicion of Verwoerd's motives might be raised by the fact that his proposal comes when South Africa is at odds with the protectorates because the latter have become havens for political refugees from South Africa's security legislation and racial policies.

Sir Patrick Dean, Britain's permanent United Nations delegate, stressed a year ago that the protectorates were politically and independent of South Africa and added: "This remains British policy."

Foreign Office spokesmen in London, refusing to comment directly on Verwoerd's proposal, significantly have pointed to Dean's statement.

At this period in history, with great emphasis on the equality of the races, few observers believe Britain would change this policy and risk condemnation for permitting Verwoerd to spread his apartheid to new areas.

Murder At The Border

Toronto Telegram

Should the Arabs wish to know why there is sympathy and admiration for Israel among Western nations, they have only to look at the evidence uncovered in the U.N. Security Council on the incident that marked the latest Syrian-Israeli exchange of fire.

Two 19-year-old Israeli farmers from the border settlement of Almagor were ambushed and killed by Syrian infiltrators. American delegate Adlai E. Stevenson calls this wanton murder. It is nothing less.

The Israelis are understandably outraged by this slaughter, especially since it follows the kidnapping of two Israeli girls by Syrians. So should the rest of the world be, for it reveals the savage mentality behind the 200 incidents in this area which have taken up one-fifth of the Security Council's sessions.

What do these young farmers do at the border? What business have they under the gun emplacements of Syria's Golan plateau only a few yards away? They till the soil, raise sheep and families, and fish in Galilee's waters.

Those guns have a habit of spitting bullets intermittently. The women and children scatter into underground bunkers and, when firing is over, resume the tasks farmers are wont to do. Nothing dislodges their patience and faith—not even the murder and kidnapping of their comrades.

Every Syrian attack intensifies their determination to build a peaceful life and arouses the admiration of the world.

In their vengeful cynicism, the Syrians must gnash their teeth over this reaction, but they have themselves to blame. They cannot go on using Israel as a scapegoat for their internal troubles and expect civilized nations to remain neutral to the atrocities.

The Syrian delegate to the U-N says the evidence at Almagor was faked, but this weakening will get him nowhere. Britain, the U.S., Brazil and others say otherwise, and decent men everywhere will know how to judge kidnappers and murderers.

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