

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
W. J. Hancox, Publisher
Frank Walker
Editor
Managing Editor
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leave French territory. In letters last week to President Johnson and Mr. Pearson, it was intimated that this decision is irrevocable.

The note to the U.S. contained a clear invitation for the U.S. to close down most, if not all, its 40 supply bases and headquarters on French soil. The note to Canada recalled that France has agreements for the construction of French airfields by the RCAF, but said that "the French governments no longer correspond to conditions."

France would have been happy to propose negotiation on all the changes, the notes said, but any such talks would have been "doomed to failure" by the attitudes of the other governments, which favor integration of forces. Since this is unacceptable to France, the French government saw no hope of getting what it wanted from negotiation and decided to act by itself.

Canada and the U.S. both have said they will not accept French command over their forces in France. One would expect that Canada will be equally explicit in stressing that no reorganization of NATO is possible without the cooperative decision of all the member nations. For them, NATO has done its job well, which is rare in a peace-time alliance, including as it does countries 5,000 miles apart and as diverse as West Germany, Turkey and Iceland.

As noted in our Washington dispatches yesterday, it was Canadian Liberal government leaders, back in 1946, who proposed the NATO defense structure which integrated European and North American strength to a degree never known before. It is this structure which is now threatened; and it is time, surely for a clear-cut statement in Parliament as to where Canada stands in the matter.

Australian Prophecy

New Zealanders must have been jolted when they heard Australian opposition leader Arthur Calwell forecast recently that within the next 20 years New Zealand might feel forced to become part of the United States. Such guesses have been hazarded in connection with Canada from time to time. But New Zealand! And this brash prophet went further by telling his own countrymen that Australia could hold out a little longer than New Zealand at might at least have to follow the same path. He put this down to the danger from a stirring Asia (above all Communist China) and to economic realities.

This prompts the Milwaukee Journal to seek the reason why Mr. Calwell should walk so boldly forth upon so high a limb. There is, it says, a persistent school of thought which holds that some day all the English-speaking world will find it to its great advantage to forge much closer economic—and perhaps political—ties. This school feels that the similarities of outlook in America, Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand are so deep and so insistent that they will eventually form a magnetic attraction which is irresistible. It is argued that some form of federation is the logical outgrowth of their common origin and their kindred ideals.

This speculation fails to take note of the fact that Canada is a bilingual, bicultural country and that even now a multimillion-dollar commission is at work seeking to heighten our consciousness in this regard and to warn us of what will happen to us if we lapse into a one-nation rather than a two-nation concept of our destiny. But barring this, many of us will subscribe to the belief that there has been probably never been a time in history, other than during the two world wars, when the co-operation among the five lands mentioned by our Milwaukee contemporary was closer. The modern world's manifold pressures and threats have called forth a kind of mutual understanding and almost instinctive cooperation which has been a welcome element of stability on a badly scattered globe.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Agriculture Minister Greene referred disparagingly, in a lively speech he delivered recently, to the Senate membership as "those old fogies." It is true, as the Hamilton Spectator points out, that some of our Senators are old, a few are very, very old; but many of them aren't old at all. Out of 97 senators listed in the 1965 Parliamentary Guide, 28 were 65 years of age or under as of February 15 this year. 21 of them were under 60, while five were under 50. Two of the senators, indeed, are even younger than Mr. Greene, who is 45.



NOT QUITE UNANIMOUS

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Needed - A Canadian Decorations System

The Pearson Government, I believe, is planning the praiseworthy step of filling an embarrassing void in our panoply of national sovereignty. It may correct the fact that, alone among the developed nations of the world, Canada has no national order or medal with which we can reward citizens or thank foreign benefactors for courage or service beyond the line of duty.

French Government in 1947. This situation is regrettable, and has led to international embarrassment. FOR WHOM AND FOR WHAT? Who will be the honored recipients of Canada's new 100th birthday medal? There is a determination that this national institution shall not deteriorate into an instrument of political patronage. Ideally a non-political honours committee should be set up to winnow recommendations; this might consist, for example, of ex-officio members such as a federal and provincial chief justices.

There should ultimately be several grades of orders and medals, so that Canada does not say "Thank You" with the same decoration to such diverse worthies as a retired Governor General, a long-service nurse in the Arctic, a civilian who risks his life to save children from a frozen river, a foreigner who serves Canada as honorary consul in some distant port, and a civil servant who performs praiseworthy tasks behind his desk. Then too, there should, to reward bravery in the armed forces, be a distinctive Canadian Cross — integrated, naturally, of any system of Canadian decorations, the ban on Canadians accepting awards offered by foreign governments could be expected to be lifted.

Where The Money Goes

Large enough that the mayors and reeves of Canada have the right to a most attentive hearing whenever they come to Ottawa with their financial problems. The municipalities are spending more money than they are collecting. The five-year capital budget approved by Ottawa City Council is one more prospect for spending which gives little hope of a reversal of the upward spiral. Because the property owner is the main source of revenue for the cities, there is no real alternative but to put up the mill rate.

The property owner is the same man who also pays federal and provincial income taxes. Finance Minister Sharp has a more reason each year to be mindful of the other levels of government competing for the same dollar.

Out Of The Dock

Most of our criminal law and court practices derive from England. For that reason we watch carefully any changes made in English law and practices and ourselves adopt those which tend to improve our system. One change now advocated by the English Law Society would be well worth consideration here, for we are constantly seeking ways of safeguarding the interests of accused persons who are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty.

The argument for change is put cogently by the Law Society: "For all practical purposes the onus of establishing guilt remains throughout upon the prosecution and the effect of placing the accused in a structure in the centre of the court which, from its nature, suggests that he is already the subject of imprisonment, is contrary to this fundamental principle."

Our Yesterdays

Twenty-five years ago (March 15, 1941) Hitler boasted that no amount of additional outside help for Britain could wrest final victory from the Axis. Germany's armed forces, he claimed, would take the lead during the spring and summer from the Italians, who bore the brunt through the winter.

At least 50,000 Italians were out of action in the seven-day Fascist offensive personally directed in Albania by Mussolini, according to Greek sources announced.

TEN YEARS AGO

It was announced that Cadet Ralph Kennedy, the son of Major and Mrs. Earl K. Kennedy, Central Royalty, has been selected as a member of the Royal Canadian Army Cadet team which would compete in the Commonwealth Rifle Meet at Bisley, England, in July.

George M. Malenkov arrived in Britain on his first visit beyond the Iron Curtain. Apparently he was delighted by the experience.

Kept On Leash

"Worse than a crime, a blunder." That may be history's verdict on the savage prison sentences passed by a Moscow court this week on two Russian writers, Andrei Sinyavsky and Yuli Daniel, for the "criminal" act of writing satires on the Soviet system and publishing them abroad. Sinyavsky was given seven years and Daniel five.

The burden of proof lies with the prosecution in criminal cases and it can be fairly argued that anything that places the accused at a disadvantage is a denial of this principle.

New Kind Of Madness

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Rare illnesses go unnoticed until a prominent person is affected. The more distinguished the patient, the better known the disease becomes. This happened to King George III except that his ailment was misdiagnosed. The king had a long illness characterized by abdominal symptoms, polyneuritis, and mental disturbances. During the latter he was a mope and unable to conduct the affairs of state. Medical historians worked for two centuries to fit the puzzle together and a recent British report suggests the solution. The insanity of George III was a classic example of porphyria.

The modern physician tests the urine for porphyrias. These may give the urine a port wine color especially after standing in a container for a few hours. The latest treatment is to withhold fluids; a simple remedy, even for a king.

DIABETES AND WORK F. T. writes: My son has just received a diagnosis of diabetes. Is tractor work too hard on him?

REPLY No. Farming will do him no harm but his diet should be adjusted to supply the energy needed for heavy work. One of the many books on this disease should prove useful in your family.

BLACK EYE K. R. P. writes: Is beefsteak still used in treating a shiner?

REPLY Not at today's prices. Cold compresses applied for 30 minutes every two or three hours will reduce swelling and discoloration. On the second day, hot compresses are better. Enzymes also are helpful. (One of the largest manufacturers of these products is a meat packer.)

LEG LESION Mrs. E.V. writes: Will keeping a leg with a sore on it elevated at night encourage healing. Yes, especially if this is a varicose ulcer. However, all the benefit will go for naught unless the leg is supported during the day with an elastic bandage or stocking.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Mother: "Now, Willie, I want you to go in and get acquainted with the new nurse and give her a nice big kiss." Willie, Jr.: "Oh yeh, and get my face slapped like paw did." — Montreal Star.

Money may not make a person happy, but it keeps his creditors in a better frame of mind — Guelph Mercury.

Everybody For Decimals Milwaukee Journal It's going to be almost unanimous — Great Britain is joining in the use of decimal currency. Beginning in 1971 the pound will be divided into units of 100. On the present basis, that would make a cent worth about 2.4 American cents.

At High Speed Hamilton Spectator There is a terrifying quality about air crashes that is not shared by accidents in any other form of travel.

There is a compulsive pressure for more speed. Modern jets with cruising speeds of about 600 m.p.h. and with high landing and take-off speeds may be out of date in a decade. The Anglo-French Concorde, flying at Mach 2 (twice the speed of sound, about 1,400 m.p.h.) and with a swift, steep take-off is making good progress in design and construction. Its first flight is scheduled for 1968 and it is hoped to have it in service in 1971. And beyond that is March 3...

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