The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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PAGE 4 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1963

Again In Nova Scotia

The return of the Stanfield Government in Nova Scotia yesterday didn't come as a surprise to anybody. By all accounts, complacency on the part of the electors was what the Conservatives were most worried about—the fear that too many supporters might be lulled to sleep by the prospects of too easy a victory. Certainly the campaign was a pedestrian one, with little of the fireworks that characterized the 1960 provincial contest.

Mr. Stanfield scored his second victory on that occasion, after breaking the Liberals' 23-year provincial rule in Nova Scotia in 1956. This is his third straight win as Conservative leader. It can be taken as a tribute to his sound, soberly progressive administration which has left no spectacular weaknesses for opponents to explcit.

Incidentally, it is noteworthy that in the nine provincial elections held across Canada within the past year, not a single government has changed. The politics espoused by the party in power has made no difference whatsoever. The Social Credit government in Alberta, in office since 1935, is right wing; the CCF-NDP government in Saskatchewan, elected in 1944, is left-wing; the Tory government in Ontario is as far removed as can be from the Grit government in Newfoundland. Yet they have all survived in a remarkable way.

Commentators have noted that this string of nine elections without change merely reflects, in somewhat concentrated form, a process that has been going on since the end of the war. In that period there have been 49 provincial elections. In seven of them, the government party was defeated. In the other 42 there was no change. In other words, in a provincial election the opposition would seem to have only one chance in seven of toppling the government.

Cause For Concern

The escape of five prisoners from Queens County Jail in two successive breaks on Monday is not a matter that our citizens, or the authorities, can view with complacency. The jailer was beaten up in one of these episodes, and it is noted that for one of the escapees it was his second break within a fortnight. Thanks to the vigilance of the city police, all the prisoners were promptly rounded up and are back in confinement. But that still leaves much to be explained.

There being nothing on the docket at the Queens County Assizes which opened and adjourned yesterday morning, and no indictments to be presented, no grand jury had been called. This procedure was followed under a section of the Grand Jury Act which authorizes it on application of the Attorney General. It was quite in order; but we venture to say that had a grand jury been summoned the jail breaks on Monday would not have escaped its notice, and there would have been reference in its report to the need of a prompt application of whatever measures were necessary to insure better supervision.

Grand juries in the past have warned, with almost monotonous regularity, against overcrowded and unsanitary conditions at the Queens County institution. Various remedial steps have been suggested, but so far nothing appears to have been done and the situation has been going from bad to worse. A news story to this effect appeared quite recently in our columns.

What connection is there between these conditions and the apparent ease with which prisoners can escape from the jail, singly, in pairs, or in triplets? How many are in detention now for serious offences that might prompt them to take desperate measures to regain their freedom, and what special precautions are being taken with regard to the custody of these persons? Is the staff adequate to maintain proper discipline at all times?

This last question seems to have answered itself in the negative. But the whole situation should be investigated, and—in lieu of a grand jury report which we will not be having at this time—the results should be made public as soon as possible.

Attorney General Farmer is conscientious in discharging his duties, and we realize that he has a problem here that is not easy of solution. But things can't go on as they are. We trust that he will take prompt measures to reassure the public on this score.

Troublesome Little Men

While recommending that Mr. Thompson's 11-member Social Credit group be given seating precedence over Mr. Caouette's 13 Creditiste MPs the Commons committee charged with determining this matter has also recommended that the question of privileges to be extended to the Creditistes be submitted to the Common Law Clerk who would report to Mr. Speaker.

Meanwhile the urgent supply measure against which the Creditistes staged a three-day blockade and desisted only after the Government had indicated its intention of holding around-the-clock sittings, has been passed. Mr. Caouette has been cut down to size for the time being, and the dither into which he put the House with his blackmailing tactics has subsided. But it is too much to hope that he will keep quiet for long.

In retrospect, the Government must now conclude that its idea of drawing distinctions between parties in the Commons by its pay-increase bill—which included a section to provide $4,000 annual allowance to the leader of a party of 12 or more MPs—wasn't such a smart one after all. As noted in a Canadian Press report, this was the first time a parliamentary bill had used the word "party", and it gave Mr. Caouette and his rabid followers just the lead they were looking for.

Important Ruling

A ruling of considerable public interest was given by the Supreme Court of Canada last week, upholding the legality of British Columbia's Labor Relations Act forbidding the use of union dues to support a political party. The court's majority decision is based on essentially the same reasoning that supported previous judgments in the lower B.C. courts: namely, that while unions have rights to be maintained by law, union members as individuals have prior rights.

In appealing the earlier decisions the union (Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International, Local 16-601) received assistance from the NDP government of Saskatchewan. It attacked the legislation as being invalid because it infringed on Parliament's control over federal elections. But the Supreme Court of Canada found that it does nothing more than provide that union dues paid as a condition of membership in a union cannot be expended for a political object which may not have the support of a trade union member. As such, the measure is within the competence of the province.

The Supreme Court decision does not, of course, mean that unions may not contribute to a political party or parties of their choice. The application is only to moneys paid by union members as a condition of their membership in a union. Nevertheless, it strikes a severe blow at the New Democratic Party which may have repercussions far beyond British Columbia. As the Winnipeg Free Press notes: "In the wake of the ruling other provinces will undoubtedly be tempted to introduce similar legislation and, from the standpoint of the protection of the civil liberties of the individual, it is legislation that has much to commend it."

HOW THE SEASONS CHANGE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Impressions Of New Zealand And Australia

There is a fascinating interest in the mixed bag of constructive ideas and strange facts which an alert politician can bring back from a "red carpet" tour in foreign lands. And this is how I found the talk of Mr. R.N. "Bob" Thompson, national leader of the Social Credit Party, when he arrived back by jet-liner from Australia in time to attend the re-opening of Parliament.

Mr. Thompson had been on a two-week tour in New Zealand and Australia. He had visited big cities and small communities. He was honored as the guest of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, welcomed as guest speaker by Rotary Clubs, and shown the impressive sights by proud hosts happy to welcome a rare visitor from Canada.

Our Commonwealth brothers "Down Under" have an affectionate interest in Canada, and they firmly believe that Canada, as the oldest and largest of the derivative British dominions, could and should play a powerful leadership role within the Commonwealth, especially in developing mutual trade and service with the new Asian and African nations of the Commonwealth. This was the most vivid impression which Bob Thompson brought home.

IMPRESSIVE FACTS

He told me that he was astonished to learn that in New Zealand the sheep population outnumbers the humans by twenty to one. He was impressed by the huge modern cities of Australia; the country has a population of only 11,000,000 but its two chief cities of Sydney and Melbourne are each larger than any Canadian city, with populations of over 2,000,000. The un-American style of cars, much better suited to the needs of Australians, contain no imported U.S. parts and are wholly Australian-made by the local subsidiary of General Motors, called Holden Company.

He noticed the enormous success of the newly instituted "Ombudsman" or "grievance settler" in New Zealand and the terrific but undeveloped tourist potential in that country. And he was interested to see the geothermal resources of abundant natural steam which are converted into electrical power.

In Australia, his politician's mind noted with envy the almost 100 per cent attendance in their House of Commons, where M.Ps do not have "those damned desks" to distract their attention from the speeches. And he admired their more logical expense allowance for M.Ps, which are not standard for all, but are graduated according to the need and the distance of each one's constituency from the capital.

COMMONWEALTH MINDED

But it was the great admiration and respect for Canada and Canadians evidenced "Down Under" which made the deepest impression upon Mr. Thompson. On all sides he heard talk themed on the importance and durability of the Commonwealth, on the magic of this informal body which is yet more viable and more beneficial in potential even than the highly-organized and expensively-financed United Nations Organization. Sir Kent Hughes, who supports in Parliament the government's Liberal-Country Party coalition led by Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies, reminded Mr. Thompson of the very significant remark made by India's Prime Minister Nehru: "If Britain's Prime Minister Macmillan destroys the Commonwealth (by taking Britain into the European Common Market) I shall rebuild it myself."

Mr. Thompson delivered several major speeches during his tour, and informally addressed an average of two gatherings each day when he was honoured at civic receptions presided over by the local Mayors. Capacity crowds turned out to hear him, and at each of two Rotary meetings the guests exceeded even the membership of the club. Great interest was aroused in his speech on "A future for the Commonwealth," and his audience stressed the great future which could lie ahead of Canada as a world trader and as a leader within the Commonwealth if we would seize the opportunity now facing us.

Cleaning Notre Dame

Waverly Root In The Washington Post

A subject of heated controversy in Paris these days is: Should the cathedral of Notre Dame be cleaned? Most of Paris' other once grimy monuments have now been rid of their dirt under a program designed to restore to this capital the shining, youthful appearance of its buildings, but Notre Dame has been left to the last because it presents special difficulties.

The age of the building is not the only problem. After all, the renovators are now completing the cleaning of an older monument — the obelisk in the Place de la Concorde, dated 1300 B.C.

This job was started some time ago and then suspended, while a special cement was devised to plug fissures discovered in the granite. It was feared that water used in the cleaning might work deep into the fissures and crack the obelisk at the first freeze.

DANGER AVERTED

This danger has now been averted, and in a month or so the obelisk will no longer be a dingy gray, but its original hue — rose.

In the case of Notre Dame, several other problems have arisen. One is the danger of giving it a crazy quilt appearance. Notre Dame has been rebuilt in spots again and again since it was first erected in 1163, and the additions were not always of the same stone as the original. A sample stretch of wall on the south side which was cleaned as an experiment has produced a slightly patchwork effect.

Then there is the possible fragility of the fine details of the carvings. The delicate lacework of the Gothic ornamentation and the intricate statues and reliefs would probably crumble if metallic brushes were used, or if caustic chemicals were added to the cleaning water.

DELICATE TASK

Nor can too strong a jet of water—and certainly no sand—be directed at these ancient stones. In fact, some critics ask, is it not possible that some of the more fragile bit of ornamentation are being held together now by an 800 year old coat of dirt, which it would be perilous to remove?

Then there is the question of the ailments of stone, which appear to be many. Different parts of Notre Dame may be suffering from different maladies. Stone, it seems, can become ill from mechanical or chemical causes or even from the action of microbes or viruses—like the old stone of the Indo-Chinese temple at Angkor Vat, which are being dosed with antibiotics.

Finally, there are those who like Notre Dame the way she is.

Bachelor Yaks

Ottawa Journal

In 1958 the Department of Northern Affairs brought three yaks of Tibetan ancestry into Ottawa to look into the possibility of introducing them into the Arctic to supplement diminishing herds of caribou.

If the yaks could thrive in the climate they would have much to offer for they provide milk and long tough hair that makes good rope, felt and fabric, they can serve as beasts of burden and they taste something like beef.

The yaks had not been heard of around Ottawa for some time and aninquiry to Northern Affairs reveals that in 1960 the original bull and two cows, augmented by four bull calves, were moved from an Ottawa area dairy farm to the Alberta Game Farm near Edmonton where the living is cheaper. There they are to stay until the herd builds up to about 40. Then some thought will be given to moving them north.

In the meantime, Mr. A. F. Oeming, director of the game farm, reports once a year on the yaks' progress. At latest report the herd was up to 10 but all calves had been bulls, which is awkward. Otherwise the news is good. The yaks show no sign of being bothered by the climate; they winter outdoors, growing heavy Winter hair.

Their "excellent horn growth" encourages Mr. Oeming to believe they would be able to hold their own against predators. And they have turned out to be docile and gregarious, useful attributes if they are to be tended in herds in the Arctic. All they need now is some heifers.

Polluted Waters

Cape Breton Post

The tendency to evade something disagreeable by pretending it isn't there accounts in large part for delays in undertaking measures to halt the pollution of streams, lakes, harbours and beaches.

The ruination dealt to fish and wild-fowl life and recreation, by pollution from sewage and industrial wastes has become a terrific problem in North America. The longer we put off facing up to the problem and dealing with it effectively the worse it gets.

Once beautiful waterways have become open sewers. Once clear streams that attracted runs of shad and spawning salmon have become as dark as death. Efforts begun to end the growing menace have met with obstruction and evasion. Recurring attempts to get an anti-pollution and remedial bill through the Canadian Parliament repeatedly have come to naught.

In our own time, we were made aware of what is happening to Sydney Harbour when it became necessary to prohibit bathing at Nelgah Beach on the upper harbour. In this life of this city, a pleasing little stream running from out of the forest and named Wash Brook because of its soft water for the use of fresh air home laundries, became a ditch of stench.

It is an editorial obligation not to look the other way, when anything is proposed that would augment the pollution of Sydney Harbour, the still beautiful expanse of tidal water upon which our city fronts.

Indeed, we all should be on guard to protect our harbour and its continuing use in waterborne commerce, in every way we possibly can. It's an obligation not only to ourselves but to posterity.

SCHOOL DOLLARS

The textbook publishing industry in Canada is worth about $31,000,000 a year.

Public Hysteria Hindered Attack

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Every time an outbreak of smallpox occurs, hordes of people rush to their physicians for vaccination. This creates a shortage of the vaccine and does not help control the spread of the disease. Those who stampede the hardest appreciate the need for booster protection but have procrastinated until the last minute.

There were five separate importations of smallpox into England and Wales early in 1962. The ministry of health found that mass vaccinations seldom were of value in these emergencies. But public hysteria was such they hed to yield to pressure and this hindered their main line of attack.

So many physicians were sidetracked for vaccinations, not enough were available to isolate those with the disease and to seek out and vaccinate every one who came into contact with a victim. These people are most likely to get the disease and need prompt protection.

We like to think that history—so far as concerns epidemics—will not repeat itself. Outbreeks of smallpox are becoming more frequent in many parts of the world and we should not be lulled into a false sense of security just because we have been lucky. Get vaccinated now.

The outbreak on the British Isles involved only 67 persons but it was fatal; 26 died, which is a fatality rate of 39 per cent. The smallpox virus has no more sympathy for modern man than it had for those living two centuries ago.

English health authorities were forced to tighten their rules at seaports and airports. They now realize the danger of allowing a large number of immigrants from countries where smallpox was raging (in this case, Pakistan) to wander about England and Wales People coming from places where the disease exists should have an International Certificate proving they have been vaccinated against smallpox or be placed under surveillance until known to be free from infection.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

October 9, 1938

On Sunday evening the Student Christian Movement of Prince of Wales College held its first song service of the season in Heartz Memorial Hall. Alan MacLeod, president of the SCM was chairman and Athol Roberts read the Scripture lesson.

L.O. Kelly, Southport, was elected president protem of a union, for which preliminary plans were made at a meeting of truck owners and drivers in the Laborers Protective Union Hall in Charlottetown last night.

TEN YEARS AGO

October 9, 1953

Randolph Nicholson was guest at a farewell party held recently at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Rennie, Darlington. A large number of his friends gathered to honor him prior to his departure for Toronto where he will attend Toronto Bible College.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Foresters estimate that the pesky porcupine can destroy an acre of forest each year. The U.S. Forest Service is reported as stating that killing one porcupine is equal to planting 2,000 trees — Bush News.

Among those who are vitally interested in your driving habits are your doctor, your lawyer, your boss, your friends, your family, your garage man and our undertaker. — Adams County Times.

Auto Insurance Rates

London Free Press

Automobile insurance rates seem to be like the cost of living. They have no place to go but up. Canadian motorists have received the gloomy news that they may be paying up to 17 per cent higher premiums next year.

This is one increase about which there can be no complaints directed at greedy companies out to rook the helpless insurer. Accident claims across Canada have gone up, and it is this factor that determines how much insurance will cost.

The mathematics are elementary: insurance is one field in which the consumer sets his own rate. If there were no accidents, insurance would be unnecessary It is all worked out on an actuarial table. Insurance companies are not charities, and when they start paying out more in claims than they receive in premiums, the motorist must be charged more.

Of course the innocent suffer along with the guilty, except that drivers with accident- free records do get preferred treatment. When more motorists have fewer accidents, their good behavior will be reflected in lower premiums. In the meantime, the competitive nature of the business can be counted on to give motorists as good a premium structure as they deserve.

Bad risks already pay higher premiums than others; if their rate were made prohibitively expensive, the motorists who need public liability coverage the most would be even less likely to carry it at all.

Zeak Crumpton Fake

Chatham Daily News

All sorts of curious devices are used in propaganda warfare. And, it seems, the worse the cause to be supported, the bigger the ties circulated in its behalf.

An item was the Zeak Crumpton letter.

Zeak wrote a letter to the editor.

He was, it seems, a colored man, and the gist of his letter was, "I am glad that my ancestors were Negro slaves." It went on to explain that the writer had done very well as a railroad section hand, had put three children through college and fived well. He went on to contrast this "tremendous progress" of the American Negro with the primitive circumstances under which he would now be living in Africa had his forbears not become slaves.

A curious individual who does not believe everything he sees in print asked himself questions.

Then he himself wrote a letter to Zeak Crumpton at the address given, R.F.D. 2, Hampton Va.

The letter was returned marked "Person Unknown."

The curious correspondent then wrote the Hampton Postmaster asking if he knew any such person as Zeak Crumpton.

The assistant postmaster replied: "This office discontinued R.F.D. 2 (rural) delivery more than 10 years ago and substituted City Delivery in its place. There is only one family by the name of Crumpton now living in Hampton, as far as can be learned. They know of no one by the name of Zeak Crumpton. There is none listed in local telephone directory nor in current City Directory. It is regretted that we can be of no further service in effecting delivery of mail addressed to an unknown person at an unknown address."

It strikes us that a cause or an argument which has to be bolstered by cunning ties has not much to commend it.

LAST MONTH'S FAMILY ALLOWANCE DRAW WINNER

The winner of the $40.00 prize in our monthly Family Allowance draw for the month of September was Mrs. Vera Birt, Mr. Stewart.

Makes publishing history!

Star Weekly's *Canada Today* series

THIS WEEK: PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Prince Edward Islanders—see yourself as others see you

This week Prince Edward Island is featured in the Star Weekly Canada Today series which devotes a complete section each week to each of Canada's ten provinces in turn. In this remarkable series, Canada's finest writers and photographers take a candid, searching look beneath the surface to show Canada as it really is.

PLUS: **The shocking facts on Canada's teenage drivers and what can be done about it ☆ Sandy Stephens—a bargain or a bust for Toronto Argonauts? ☆ A memorable Thanksgiving menu to grace any table ☆ Fashion ☆ Comics ☆ The best modern fiction ☆ All the other features that make the Star Weekly great reading every week.**

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STAR WEEKLY

More than 50 lively features every week