The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Shrouded In Ambiguity

The communique issued at the end of the federal-provincial conference in Quebec yesterday was about as vague as it could be on the subject of the Canada Pension Plan. We are told that the plan was further discussed, that Quebec indicated that its proposed plan was one which could provide portability of benefits with the national plan, and that there was "general agreement to ensure the widest possible pension coverage for Canadians."

On another subject of cardinal importance—that of shared-cost programs, it was agreed that Ottawa would initiate discussions with the provinces concerning contracting-out arrangements with regard to programs of a permanent nature and which involve fairly regular annual expenditures.

It was agreed, too, at Ottawa's suggestion, that there be a joint review of the tax situation in relation to the financial responsibilities of both the federal and provincial administrations—a "review in depth, which ought to be undertaken promptly"; that in furtherance of this agreement there is to be established at once a "tax structure committee", an important purpose of which will be to "increase the range of tax resources available to the provinces, in order to meet their increasing responsibilities for education and other services." This joint review of the tax structure is not to prejudice "the early solution of the urgent financial problems confronting the provincial and federal governments," which will require "mutual accommodation to reconcile their expenditure and revenue requirements."

It is hard to make head or tail of this announcement, except that definite decision in the matter of both the pension plan and the shared-cost programs has yet to be taken; for which, perhaps, in the circumstances, we may be thankful.

With regard to the demands that Ottawa withdraw from the latter programs and give the provinces taxing powers to finance them on their own, a writer in the Montreal Gazette put the case very well the other day when he said: "Merely withdrawing does not mean that a national responsibility ceases but rather than often a coordinating responsibility will arise since separate policies, province by province, may give us a crazy-quilt of development which can only be forestalled by efficient liaison replacing what previously had been largely centralized."

Yesterday's communique states that "future liaison arrangements were discussed," which we can only hope was intended as having some bearing on this important matter.

Now It's Cybernation

A group of economists, labor leaders and others has submitted to U.S. President Johnson a report declaring that "cybernation is manifesting the characteristics of a revolution in production, a basic reordering of man's relationship to his environment and a dramatic increase in total available and potential energy."

What is this jargon all about? It's about automation, the impact of which is being felt in industry and among white collar as well as blue collar workers. "Cybernation" is defined as meaning the combination of computers and self regulating machines that promises almost unlimited productive capacity and progressively less human labor.

Those who think that this is something for the future to grapple with should study the implications of this report. Since World War II in the United States, the time required to produce a ton of coal has been cut in half and the number of miners reduced from 450,000 to 130,000. Man-hours needed to manufacture an automobile have dropped from 311 to 153. The railroads have eliminated 500,000 jobs in the last decade. Factory production rose 43 per cent and population 19 per cent in the 1950's, but factory employment declined 10 per cent .

Computers with memory systems are eliminating middle range executives previously valued for their experience. Between 1960 and 1963 the unemployment rate of clerical workers increased from 3.8 per cent to 4.9 per cent.

The group that reported to President Johnson said that man's whole concept of "work" must be changed because in the automated economy ahead man will no longer have to labor as he has; computers and automatic machines will take over. It is imperative, therefore, that there be "conscious and rational direction of economic life by planning institutions under democratic control."

Last July President Kennedy announced his intention to appoint a presidential commission to study automation, but he did not live to make the appointments. Now President Johnson has asked congress to authorize a "national commission on automation and technology" whose 14 members he would appoint. The commission would submit recommendations by Jan. 1, 1966.

Canada shouldn't lag too far behind in giving consideration to this problem, either. There is no question that it will involve tremendous adjustments in our way of life. We need to know much more about it, and the time available for equipping ourselves with this knowledge may be shorter than we think.

Nuclear War Clock

A magazine founded by many individuals who helped to develop the atomic bomb is reportedly in trouble because it has been successful in its dedication to seeing that such weapons are never used again. This is the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, published in Chicago, which has sought to be the conscience of those who built the bomb and, in many cases, are still working on nuclear weapons. Its board of sponsors contain great names in science. Among them, until his death in 1955, was Dr. Albert Einstein. Several other winners of the Nobel Prize are on the board.

Twice, since World War II, the clock on the Bulletin's cover has been set closer to midnight, symbolizing what was considered an increased danger of nuclear war. Both occasions marked the Soviet acquisition of nuclear weapons: the atomic bomb in 1949 and the hydrogen bomb in 1953.

Since 1953 the hands of the clock have twice been set back. The first time was in 1960, when the international situation had improved considerably. The second was last year with the agreement to cease testing nuclear weapons above the ground.

Last week subscribers to the magazine received notice that it faces "a serious financial crisis." The chief reason given was that many of the 27,500 subscribers are not renewing. The editors attribute the subscription drop to the lessened danger of nuclear war. "The Bulletin and its readers," the notice said, "can justly claim their share in having made these developments possible."

That is a grand thing to have to one's credit. We hope that the magazine will not fold up, despite the present improved conditions. We are not out of the woods yet so far as the menace of a nuclear war is concerned.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The redistribution debate in Parliament should be fought on principle. But as the Calgary Albertan points out, the five parties are not quarrelling over how best to inject more democracy into electoral procedures. Rather, in the time-honored way of political parties, each is jockeying to ensure that any changes will not work to its own disadvantage.

COULDN'T EXPECT TO BOWL THEM OVER

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

North Atlantic Alliance Anniversary

The North Atlantic Alliance is just celebrating its 15th birthday — but celebrating it with very muted trumpets as the paper partnership prepares to enter upon a sixteenth year which could be decisive: either disruptive and disastrous, or cooperative and constructive.

It was on April 4 1949 that the North Atlantic Treaty was signed in Washington, formalizing the brilliant concept of Canada's Mike Pearson to build the world's first "alliance for progress", in peaceful prosperity whilst prepared for mutual defence. This treaty, Mike Pearson declared publicly, should lead to the creation of an economic — perhaps even a political — commonwealth of the Western World. "Nothing less will do," he asserted.

In the subsequent 15 years, history has moved onward at a gallop never before seen in our world. Nuclear power, rocketry, space craft, automation and nationalism have changed the picture to an extent unimagined on that Spring morning in Washington in 1949. The nature of the alliance has required change its membership must be expanded. Now that intercontinental missiles have put the most distant community on the potential front fighting line, the concept of protecting the USA by strong forces in Europe has become outmoded - thus nullifying the emphasis which USA has always given to that shortsightedly military aspect of the alliance.

CANADA'S SANE AIM

As never before, today's disorder calls for the Elysium which Mike Pearson's blueprint could still achieve. It calls for the peoples of the alliance to work together for their collective good — just as individuals from the allied nations, now immigrated to North America, already work together to attain their collective aims.

Konrad Adenauer, the former chancellor of West Germany, has warned the NATO allies that "it is high time for us all to set ourselves earnestly to removing our differences of opinion - under the terms of the treaty, any member can withdraw after another five years." Jean Monnet, who knows Mike Pearson's words but sings them more convincedly, has also just urged the bickering allies to recognize their common interests, or else.

Why, when our soldiers stand shoulder to shoulder facing our common human foe, do our economists and traders and scientists and politicians refuse to overcome our physical foes of hunger and disease and poverty and unemployment?

The answer, alas, is the political leaders of the western nations are too often mere wardheelers rather than statesmen; they think more of their own votes at the next election than of the long-term good of those whose votes they seek. In this they are probably underrating the charitableness of mankind; at this season of Easter we should think of every man as our brother, but we rarely suspect that our thoughts are selfishly "I'm in the boat, shove off."

SHARE GOOD THINGS

As one prominent politician recently explained to me: "The ideal of 'One World' would call for harmonization of taxation and social legislation among the cooperating nations - this the 'have' nations of North America would not accept."

In other words we, the world's fat cats, with two chicken in every pot, would not share with those hungry eats who have none.

But we share through welfare with the British, the French, the Germans and others in Canada who are in need; why should we not share and work with those in other countries for our common peace and assured prosperity? The NATO locsin is sounding and we should harken to it.

COLONEL INDICTED

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) — Swedish Air Force Col. Stig Wennerstorem, 56, was indicted on three charges of spying Tuesday. The prosecutor alleged in a press statement last October Wennerstorem, former air attache in Washington and Moscow, had confessed to handing Russia information on the Swedish armed forces.

Warnings At Geneva

By Joseph MacSween
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Some mind - boggling warnings are being produced by the United Nations conference on trade and development in Geneva.

As expected, the 122-country talks are generally following a dry-as-dust pattern, but occasionally the urgency of the trade situation is dramatically illustrated by a statement or statistic.

The UN reckons, for instance, that at present rates it will be 200 years before living standards in the have-not countries reach present standards in Western Europe.

The trade gap between rich and poor, in fact, has been growing wider because of falling prices for the primary products of hav-not countries. This has wiped out the bulk of what the poorer countries have received in foreign aid in the last 10 years.

The political dangers of the gap and the need for new approaches to remedy it have been underlined by speakers at the conference and elsewhere.

TIME IS SHORT

One political judgment was made by Harold Wilson, Britain's Labor Party leader, in a recent Montreal speech. He said the world has no more than 15 years to heal the gap—otherwise the fissure would be out of control against all future efforts.

One aim of the conference is to ensure that the underdeveloped countries reach the modest growth rate of five per cent by 1970, but is clear that this in itself would mean nothing unless it is protected.

Argentina's Dr. Paul Prebisch estimated if present trends continued,the trade gap of the un derdeveloped countries may reach an order of magnitude of about $20,000,000,000 by 1970.

All this puts into context such warning statements as that made by Philippines President Diosdado Macapagal in a message to the conference. He said failure of the talks would plunge developing nations into a new depth of hopelessness and frustration.

"Failure is, indeed, unthinkable," he added.

POLITICS OUT

As seen from London, one encouraging feature of the conference is that most underdeveloped countries have not allowed themselves to be led astray by political propaganda regarding Red China, East Germany or South Africa.

Delegates are apparently convinced they must keep their richer colleagues talking about economic matters and let politics wait for another day.

One of the most distressing features is the clash between Britain and France on how to improve the situation. Britain is calling for a freeing of trade in manufactured goods while Europe, under French leadership, is stressing plans for increasing world food and raw material prices.

A possible compromise is seen in a suggestion by Presbisch, who is conference secretary general, that broad targets be established for manufactured goods, foodstuffs and raw materials which the industrialized countries will buy from the poorer nations.

Some observers believe this would cut across the differences between the French and British plans, enabling headway on at least one of the innumerable issues facing the three-month conference.

Nothing of a concrete nature can be expected soon—probably not for a long time. Dozens of sometimes conflicting proposals will have to be deve'oped in committee.

The toughest bargaining is expected to come in the early part of June when final recommendations will be hammered out for presentation to the UN economic and social council.

Foreign Service For Youth

Regina Leader Post

A vigorous lead in helping the under- developed nations is being given the western democracies by the announcement that Britain will substantially expand its program of voluntary service overseas.

It is to be hoped that the other nations of the Commonwealth, Canada among them, will be encouraged to take similar steps.

In the urgent attack on world poverty, this aid is one of the most practical methods the west can adopt to counter Communist penetration of developing countries.

The west, through its economic services and technical aid programs, is making a majo, contribution not only to the preservation of world peace, but toward the overall betterment of mankind.

There is no more valuable service in this helping-hand program than the contribution of men and women prepared to work in its cause.

It is in this sphere that Canada, which is already doing a great deal, can do even more.

An expanded Canadian contribution to personnel for overseas work could be even more valuable than increasing economic facilities to the developing nations — although this, too, is of great urgency.

Today 19,000 British men and women, armed with help from the British government, are serving in under- developed lands, mainly in the Commonwealth.

Of these 550 are young volunteers, newly- qualified university graduates and recently qualified apprentices who give up at least a year of their time to this service at the start of their careers.

Here is one direction in which Canada should step up its aid and at the same time gain young people with enriched experience through service overseas.

It would be good for the developing countries to get the assistance of knowledgeable young people and it would be good for some of our able and well-qualified young people to get a taste of life abroad, seeing at first hand how "the other half lives."

Of course we must continue to send a force of experienced and qualified Canadians in our overseas program to under- developed countries, but this force could be bolstered and greatly expanded by using young volunteers fresh from training and yet in their formulative and most impressionable years.

Medicine And Foods

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

A 64-year-old Abington, Pa., man was under treatment for high blood pressure with a new but highly acceptable remedy. He ate a cheese sandwich for lunch and developed indigestion 10 minutes later. Pain beneath the breastbone became so severe he feared a heart attack and was taken to the receiving ward of the Abington Memorial hospital.

Distress subsided within 20 minutes. On admission, his blood pressure was over 200 and his physicians were puzzled because the medicine had successfully kept the reading below 140 over a two-year period.

What made the blood pressure rise so abruptly? Various possibilities were considered but a reaction to cheese was the most likely explanation. Similar reactions to the combination of cheese and anti - hypertensive agents have been reported. Fermented cheese contains a specific substance that is capable of nullifying the action of this medication. The blood pressure dropped to normal two hours after hospitalization. It is doubtful whether this man will eat cheese again while taking the hypotensive agent.

Foods are chemicals and there is no reason why they cannot aggravate or neutralize the action of a drug that is taken simultaneously. Spinach and other leafy vegetables, for example, are rich in vitamin K.

This is of no consequence unless the consumer also is taking an anticoagulant to slow the blood clotting time after a heart attack. Large amounts of vitamin K will destroy the effectiveness of the anticoagulant. Aspirin does the same.

CASTING OFF GUILT

Mrs. H. writes: I went to a psychiatrist, who said I project my feelings. This didn't help me any. Do you know anything about this condition?

REPLY

Projection is a compensatory means of defense in which intolerable feelings of guilt or inadequacy are projected onto others. This type of bizarre thinking makes the person feel better about his own faults. The situation can be likened to blaming the hammer after hitting the thumb.

TREMBLING HAND

R. S. writes: My right hand shakes so I can hardly write. This is making me so nervous I don't go anywhere for fear I will have to sign my name. My doctor prescribed a sedative and a tranquilizer but they did no good. Do you think shots of vitamin B would help the nerves so that shaking would stop?

REPLY

Possibly, but why not ask your physician when you see him again?

FINGER BITER

B. T. writes: My boy friend bites his thumb and fingers so that the skin looks awful. He won't be a doctor as there anyway I can help him cure this bad habit?

REPLY

Not if emotional immaturity is responsible for his behavior. Unless he grows up, look for a new boy friend or you will have to contend with this kind of thing the rest of your married life.

NO VACCINE

J. D. writes: Can shots be taken to prevent meningitis?

REPLY

Meningitis means inflammation of the meninges, the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord. A variety of micro- organisms cause the disease. Vaccines are available for some of these, such as polio and measles.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

A chronic disorder may lengthen life.

(NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, co Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(April 3, 1939)

Mr. D.N. Bell, vice- principal of Prince Street School was elected president of the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation during its annual convention. Mr. Alden Leard, Bedeque, was made vice- president.

W. Ira MacDonald, Hopedale, has been appointed to the mission field of North Salem, N.S., in the Truro Presbytery of the United Church. He takes over his duties in May.

TEN YEARS AGO
(April 3, 1954)

One of the finest variety concerts ever held under the auspices of the Akita Club was staged before a packed audience at the Centre Ice Christian Church hall. Mr. Kelvin Johnston was master of ceremonies.

Mr. Brendon O'Grady conducted a panel discussion on housing as a feature of the bi-monthly supper meeting of the Kinsmen Club held in the Charlottetown Hotel.

QUAKE RECORDED

MONTREAL (CP)—When the seismograph at Brebeuf College was examined after the Easter holiday weekend, it was found Montreal Island was very slightly shaken by an earth tremor minutes after the devastating quake hit Alaska Friday. Rev. Maurice Buist, in charge of the seismograph at the Jesuit college, said that 300 to 400 light quakes may be recorded in various parts of the world during the next few months as a result of the major quake in Alaska.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Audiences sometimes show feeling when a speaker talks too long—they start feeling for their hats and coats.— St. Catherines Standard.

As part of their war in China, the Russians have sent to the Mediterranean a cruise ship laden with 250 journalists. Mr. Wang Ching asks with some relevance, "How can a Mediterranean cruise help the masses in their struggle against imperialism?" Well, it gets 250 journalists in a position where they can't do much harm.—Punch.

It's best not to tell people your troubles. Most of them aren't interested, and the others may be glad you're getting what's coming to you.—Galt Reporter.

The best thing that could happen to Cyprus is reversion to colonial status under a British governor. Nobody proposed this solution because it is now an axiom that every "nation" must govern itself, no matter how badly it botches the job.— Financial Post.

She- My grandfather lived to be over 90 and never used glasses. He: Well, a lot of people prefer it out of the bottle.— Windsor Star.

Educated Fish

James Howard in Wall Street Journal

There are no doubt some people in the country who regard certain government activities as a little silly. But even they, we're sure, will support the Interior Department's efforts to teach fish to act "naturally."

This is one government enterprise that does seem essential. Without proper schooling, the government fears, fish will not be ready three years hence for the opening of the National Aquarium, a $10 million fish house, where, we are officially informed, "dolphins will make spectacular leaps into the air—apparently just for the fun of it. Archer fish will shoot insects off overhanging branches. Octopi will emerge from their rock fortresses to attack crabs. Schools of piranha will slash viciously at food containers."

"The aquatic animals will be doing what comes naturally," the Interior Department says "but only because they will have been carefully trained. If they were just dumped into their new habitat, practically nothing of public interest or scientific value would happen."

Some of us would not have supposed untutored piranha regard food any differently than their more learned brethren, or that octopi need too much coaching to attack a crab. We are glad to have this government guidance. It's also good to know how the federal organization approaches the curriculum for the dolphin.

The government assures us it isn't "trying to create a circus" and only wants "to make the dolphin behave naturally in a near - natural habitat for the benefit of both scientists and public viewers." Ah, yes. But it's a good bet that when the school's out the dolphins will never be quite the same again.

An Interior Department press release also proudly proclaims that "dolphins... will be taught to broad jump, an accomplishment never before seen in public." No circus, you understand; merely a whale of a track meet.

Finally, the drive toward natural dolphins will concentrate on teaching them to talk. The department concedes that its pupils probably won't master the human language. All that's aimed for is sound patterns "that resemble such human words as 'thank you'."

This last venture seems assured of success. After having been rewarded with all that education, what self- respecting dolphin could refuse to express his gratitude?

A Latter - Day Viking

Ottawa Journal

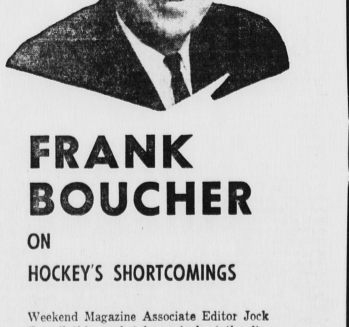
Radio operator Torstein Raaby, who contrived to send messages from the pitching Kon Tiki raft in the South Pacific in 1948, died in the icy fastness of Ellesmere Island. He was a latter-day Viking. He had known the storms and the kindly calms of the warm southern seas but long before he came to Canada on this his last expedition he had also known the cold North in Europe.

Mr. Thor Heyerdahl tells, in his book on the Kon Tiki expedition how he looked for the men to accompany him on the raft from Peru to the Pacific isles. He wanted Raaby because he had displayed intensity, endurance and courage during the war.

When the British wanted a watch kept on the German battleship Tirpitz, Raaby found a cave from which he watched movement on the ship in a Norwegian bay and sent his information to London with the help of a German wireless aerial to which he hitched his own apparatus.

Then the Tirpitz had been smashed by British bombers, the valiant Norwegian returned to Britain, picked up another wireless set and was dropped behind the German lines to help direct the invading forces of freedom to their objectives.

He was a man who loved adventure and prepared thoughtfully and left as little as he could to chance. It would have been a great joy to him to have walked for his Norwegian companions from Ellesmere Island across the Arctic to Northern Europe, but he died before the journey began, out on the frontier of exploration where he felt at home.



FRANK BOUCHER ON HOCKEY'S SHORTCOMINGS

Weekend Magazine Associate Editor Jock Carroll this week takes a look at the distinguished hockey career of Frank Boucher and presents Frank's views on the shortcomings of hockey today. Boucher has spent 30 years in the National Hockey League as a star player, coach and manager of the New York Rangers. As chairman of the Rules Committee of the NHL, he rewrote the many rule books of the day into the one rule book which still governs Canadian hockey. His observations are those of a man who has devoted a lifetime to the sport.

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