

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week - day morning at 105 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by the Thomson Company Ltd.

The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink.

TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 1956

Why The Civic Apathy?

With nomination day set for tomorrow, the civic election on February 8th promises to be an exceptionally quiet one. This may be interpreted as favorable to the administration we have been enjoying, but on the other hand it may reflect a lack of public interest which is by no means conducive to continuing good government.

We are not singular in this respect. The Frederickton Gleaner has had occasion to comment on a similar situation in the New Brunswick capital. It is a problem, it says, which is posing a serious threat to our democracy.

"We pride ourselves," says the Gleaner, "on the fact that we divorce party politics from municipal affairs in most Canadian communities. Yet candor compels the admission that if the political parties carried their contests into the civic field there would be many more voters at civic elections."

In civic as in other elections, "getting out the vote" is an important matter; but it is even more important that the voting reflect the public interest of the community, and the intelligent choice of the electorate. The act of voting is meaningless in itself if it does not express the voter's conviction.

Certainly we hope that there will be a large vote in the civic contest on February 8th; but the trend toward public apathy will not be checked by mere insistence on this point. The trouble goes much deeper. It calls for serious consideration, both by voters and candidates.

Threat Of Force

The list of specific subjects on the agenda for the Eisenhower-Eden talks is known only to the principals themselves and perhaps a few of their advisers; and, quite understandably, these gentlemen are keeping their own counsel. It is known, however, that the tense Middle East situation will come up for discussion; both the President and the Prime Minister have stated as much.

speculation; for it is obvious that diplomatic negotiations have not succeeded in bringing either side to a peaceful outlook or even to a commonsense approach to outstanding problems; it is obvious, too, that the two sides are about equally to blame for the serious state of affairs. There is not a doubt in the world that the Arab bloc wants to see the State of Israel wiped off the map; on the other hand, there is no overlooking Israel's provocative attitude towards her neighbours.

Sterile Talent

The Associated Press describes the late H. L. Mencken as a "literary giant" of the turbulent 1920s. Certainly he was a brilliant editor and caustic critic of his time, and his volumes on "The American Language" show that he was a painstaking scholar as well. But there is no evidence of stature in the invectives with which his name is chiefly associated. They are witty and satirical; but one has only to re-read them in book form, after the dust they raised has subsided, to note their shallowness and bias.

EDITORIAL NOTES

More deductions for medical services should get most serious consideration from income tax authorities, argues the Edmonton Journal. It is all very well to propose and discuss grandiose scheme for national health insurance, but there are simpler measures of practical benefit to many persons which could be given effect to almost immediately.

Indian Communists are in a quandry, sure enough. For years the chief target of their abuse was Prime Minister Nehru. However, visiting Soviet Premier Bulganin and Party Secretary Khrushchev had high praise for the Indian leader. The question now is whether the local group should follow suit or carry on just as if the two Russians hadn't spoiled the fun.

Members of the Amish sect, two of whom were in the Province recently to confer with agricultural officials on the possibility of making arrangements for future settlement on the Island, have the reputation of being good farmers, thrifty, law-abiding, and of strong religious convictions. Unlike some other related sects, they do not hold themselves entirely aloof from their neighbours, although as a rule they like to stay by themselves, chiefly because of their social customs which are, admittedly, a bit out of the ordinary.



JOHNNY - ON - THE - SPOT

Change In Western Samoa

By J. C. Guaham Canadian Press, Wellington, N. Z.

Nationalism and demands for independence are causing unrest in many parts of the world. But a new independent country is being quietly and patiently brought into being in the Pacific without pressure and without publicity.

This is the trust territory of Western Samoa, administered by New Zealand under the United Nations. New Zealand has been working by carefully planned stages to make the natives of this island group ready for self-government.

When this change takes effect, Western Samoa will become the only independent island group in the South Pacific with the exception of Queen Salote's kingdom of Tonga.

Samoa was a German colony until the First World War, when it was occupied by New Zealand forces. Since then it has been administered by New Zealand, first as a League of Nations mandate, then as a trust territory.

The Party Line

I. N. S. in The Ottawa Journal

Mr. Howe told the Liberals who gathered one night last week to dine in honor him and Mr. Gardiner that "when the Prime Minister lays down the party line that's got to be it". There was no room to question it in public, said Mr. Howe. Moreover, there should be some "tightening up" in the party line.

The report of the banquet said that this call to be faithful was greeted with great applause. "Heil Hitler and Viva Il Duce!" But when I read this it set me thinking of a somewhat contrary line taken last Fall by Mr. Pearson, a colleague in arms of Messrs. Howe and Gardiner.

What was it Mr. Pearson had said about members of Parliament and where had he said it? Couldn't have been in Moscow, nor yet in Singapore. No, but I had read it somewhere. Ah yes! In his book "Democracy in World Politics", published last Fall.

Two-it stood on the bookshelf, a two-color cover with the red and the blue merging gently like good neighbors. And there was Mr. Pearson, on pages 108-110, in philosophy, reflection on the role of a Member.

Mr. Pearson is such a modest man that he won't likely send his book to Mr. Howe with the pages marked. And it is also unlikely he will read his own book at the next Liberal caucus. Hence this service being rendered in this column, reproduced from Mr. Pearson's book, courtesy Reginald Saunders, Toronto, the publishers. Wrote Mr. Pearson:

"One of the best servants that a democracy has ever had, it seems to me, was Edmund Burke. It is worth recalling once again what he said to his electors at the Guildhall in Bristol, when they sought in mid-term to harness him to their opinion on individual issues: 'I did not obey your instructions. No, I conformed to the instructions of truth and nature, and maintained your interest, against your opinions, with a consistency that became me. A pillar of the state, and not a weathercock on the top of the edifice, scaled for my levity and versatility, and of no use but to indicate the shifting of every fashionable gale.'"

The Poet's Corner

FATHER TO SON Within your present, I repeat my past: My youth, so long-forgotten, comes to my mind: The problems, protests, problings —unresolved— Recall unret I gladly left behind. Your prospects, swift as moods, Jar memories I have no wish nor strength to live again. One youth is quite enough: no sophistries Could lure me back to be what I was then. With prescience, I perceive the gravities You elude as joys. The whims you gird with will Are whirlwinds of dust upon a breeze. All this I see, and yet my voice is still. For each, alone, must reckon with his youth. As each, alone, must grow to know of truth. —Sam Bergman, in the New York Times.

Temperance Aid

Bibulous France is seeking a new way to foster temperance, this time not by promoting milk consumption, but by illustrating the effects of liquor on the human liver. A large model of that organ, its size and shape distorted by cirrhosis, has been put on public display in a subway, and flashing lights ask: "Is this yours?"

The Age Old Story

Take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. HEADS CANADA FOUNDATION OTTAWA (CP)—Willrid Eggleston of Ottawa, director of the School of Journalism at Carleton College here, Tuesday was elected president of the Canada Foundation. He succeeds Dr. E. A. Corbett of Toronto. The foundation was incorporated in 1945 to stimulate interest and co-ordinate Canadian cultural activities, and to devise a program of awards grants and scholarships.

WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR ALY KHAN?

Will Aly Khan, former husband of screen star Rita Hayworth, inherit the immense fortune and religious leadership of his father, the Aga Khan, or will his brother get the bid? Read what Robert McKeown says in The Standard this week. Get The Standard—on sale now, complete with magazine, 12-page novel and 20 pages of comics. Only ten cents.

Quickly Relieve Mouth Cankers with Dr. FOWLER'S extract of WILD STRAWBERRY

Medically Speaking

A WELL-BALANCED DIET FOR A LADY-IN-WAITING It is always important to eat the right foods in the right amounts. But this becomes doubly important for the expectant mother. You will seldom gain weight during the first three months of pregnancy. Thereafter, the monthly gain should not average more than three and one-half pounds.

SUGGESTED FOODS

At least one serving of oranges, tomatoes or grapefruit. This means one medium-sized orange, half a grapefruit, one cup of citrus juice. One or more servings of potatoes. At least one-half cup of other fruits and vegetables. One or more eggs and at least a four-ounce serving of meat, poultry or fish.

TO BE AVOIDED

You should avoid the following: Foods which may create gas such as sweet potatoes, cabbage and dried beans. Foods which are digested slowly such as fat pork, frankfurters, bologna, rich gravies, pickles, mayonnaise and pie.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

D. G.: What would cause my hips to ache and what would you advise for relief? Answer: Pain in the hips may come from a variety of causes, such as infection, injury, or from some disorder affecting the circulation. Arthritis is a frequent cause. It is advisable that you have a careful study made by your physician to determine the cause; then he will prescribe proper treatment.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (January 31, 1931) The report of Mr. S. G. Peppin, chief potato inspector, given at last night's agricultural meeting, revealed that the demand for seed potatoes continues to increase each year, particularly in the Atlantic seaboard states. Of the 36,025 acres which passed inspection in P. E. I., Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine, 55 per cent was located in this Province.

ANCIENT LAND

Bolivia, once part of the ancient Inca empire, gained its independence from Spain in 1825.

PREMIER WALTER JONES

The Toronto Industrial Commission yesterday revealed that a total of thirty new industrial firms had come to the area during the past year. Still on the prospect file were the names of 160 British, United States and European firms.

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The Standard

Maybe the wonder drugs will get better and better, but let's hope they never replace the old-fashioned doctors whose invariable advice was to quit working so hard.—Stratford Beacon Herald. An inventor in Switzerland has invented a cigarette which can be lit by scratching it along the surface of its package. That's making it still tougher for the chain-smoker who wants to quit.—Sarnia Observer.

Research is said to have indicated that submarines glide along more efficiently if they are short and tubby. Why, for years it's been obvious that similarly built lady shoppers were ideally designed for cruising through department store crowds.—Hamilton Spectator.

A Newfoundland MP urging people to eat more fish, says children in Ottawa are pale and anemic compared to the rosy-cheeked youngsters back home. It's a new twist in politics to have Eastern legislators feeling a bit sorry for people in Central Canada.—Ottawa Citizen.

In October, 1955, according to Marketing, national advertisers spent \$4.3 millions in daily newspapers in Canada. This represented a gain of 10.8 per cent over the same month in 1954. The advertising revenues of the daily newspapers equalled the combined totals of three other media, magazines, week end and farm papers.—Weldland Tribune.

The attack made on the Government by Lt.-Gen. Guy Simonds, former Chief of Canada's General Staff, for not facing up to the nation's manpower problem, came too late to make much impact on Parliament Hill. Had it been made immediately after he went into retirement, the effect would have been greater. It is virtual confirmation, however, of original reports, denied by the Government at the same time, that Gen. Simonds' views on the subject were largely responsible for his relegation to the sidelines.—Montreal Gazette.

It's getting to be quite a distance between the hen's nest and the frying pan. Eggs were recently selling for the counter in Alberta retail stores at 50 to 55 cents a dozen for Grade A large. The producer who feeds the hen and gathers the eggs was getting 30 to 32 cents a dozen at that time. It takes 20 cents a dozen or more to get the egg from the nest where the hen lays it to the frying pan where the consumer wants it. It seems quite a spread—66.23 percent. We wonder if that isn't having something to do with the so-called farm problem.—Lethbridge Herald.

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