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 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
 THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1955

Provincial Debt Figures

According to recent figures of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the net debt of Canada's ten provinces increased by \$271,925,000 in the last fiscal year, to reach a total of \$3,644,691,000. This represented a per capita obligation of \$240.13 for each person in Canada, an increase of \$1.56 from the previous fiscal year. And this was additional to federal and municipal obligations.

Ontario led all the provinces with the highest per capita debt, displacing New Brunswick, which had previously enjoyed that unenviable distinction. During the year New Brunswick's per capita debt actually declined \$5.97 to \$332.07.

Alberta has the lowest per capita debt among the provinces. During the year it dropped \$6.70 to a new low of \$99.22. Saskatchewan, on the other hand, increased \$3.27 to \$282.81 and British Columbia \$6.85 to \$221.18.

Quebec's per capita debt increased \$7.40 to \$165.67 which is little more than half the Ontario figure. Nova Scotia also increased \$3.27 to \$282.81 per capita. Newfoundland increased \$2.44 to \$128.44.

On the other hand, Manitoba was down \$4.68 to a per capita figure of \$187.23 and Prince Edward Island \$2.58 to \$166.90. Which indicates that, despite a deep rooted belief to the contrary, public debts can be cut.

Gaza Of The Philistines

Sun-steeped Gaza, where Samson toppled a temple about the heads of his Philistine captors, relives its ancient role as an embattled gate between Asia and Africa. Tension today rides like a dark cloud over southern Palestine's chief commercial center, as it has time after time since early Biblical days. The city is nucleus of the so-called "Gaza Strip", a 7-by-25-mile zone created by the 1949 armistice between Egypt and Israel. The strip forms an isolated land peninsula administered by the Egyptian Army, choked with Arab refugees, buffeted by border skirmishes.

As in ancient times, Gaza stands in verdant gardens and fruit groves three miles from the Mediterranean Sea. The hilltop city bestrides one of the world's oldest caravan routes. Long before the Christian era, exotic goods of Arabia passed through Gaza en route to Egypt, Rhodes, Rome and elsewhere. Egyptian war chariots thundered through the city 14 centuries before Christ's birth. King Thut-mose III, fighting pharaoh who vanquished the Syrians at Megiddo (Armageddon), used Gaza as a military base.

As Egypt's power waned, a warlike people known as the Philistines came from an unknown place, probably Crete, to invade and settle the Gaza coast. Shortly before or after, the Israelites fled from Egypt to the Promised Land. The two peoples fought for generations. Gaza, southernmost of the Philistines' five city kingdoms, was the scene of Samson's spectacular revenge against his persecutors. Blinded and despairing, the Biblical strong man "took hold of the two middle pillars" and "bowed himself with all his might so that the house fell upon the lords and upon the people that were therein." Near by David slew the Philistine giant Goliath. When the city engaged in slave traffic, Amos uttered God's judgment: "I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof."

Alexander the Great surged through the Holy Land in the third century B. C. Gaza held off the Egypt-bound conqueror for five months, but his overwhelming military might opened Philistine cities to Greek influence. Gaza became a center of Greek culture with celebrated schools and temples rivaling those in Athens and Alexandria. Gaza withstood another long siege before it was burned by Alexander Jannaeus in 96 B.C. Rebuilt, the city was granted to Herod.

Over the centuries, notes the National Geographic Society, other

conquerors' armies poured like tidal waves across the Holy Land's fertile coastal plain and the desert sands south of Gaza. Moslem invaders engulfed the city; the first Crusaders fought for its possession. Napoleon captured Gaza in 1799 and burned the towns and harvests of Philistia on his way back to Egypt. Gaza found itself a base of German-Turkish operations in World War I and was nearly destroyed by British bombardments.

Despite its stormy career, however, Gaza has survived as a depot for barley and wheat. Swarthy Bedouins trade for pottery, weapons, food and cloth in the shadow of its minarets.

The World's Hunger

It is becoming increasingly clear that, important as military arms and alliances are in the free world's unceasing efforts to prevent war, there will be no assurance of peace so long as two out of every three of the world's population are in a state of semi-starvation. The latest person of prominence to come out in support of more concentrated effort, through United Nations agencies, on this problem of feeding the hungry millions—or, better, helping them to feed themselves—is Lord John Boyd-Orr, eminent British nutritionist, one-time Nobel Peace Prize recipient, and the first director of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

Speaking over the United Nations radio system, Lord Boyd-Orr gave it as his opinion that "government heads would be better occupied in talking about things like food, which they may be expected to understand than in sitting around tables talking a lot of nonsense about communism, capitalism, and socialism". He thinks that over a reasonable period of time the world's food production could be doubled at an outlay of between 10 and 12 billion dollars. This, as everyone knows, is a mere bagatelle in the armament-building expenditures of the nations. Not only, in Lord Boyd-Orr's opinion would the expenditure of this comparatively modest amount remove the spectre of hunger from millions of persons in the so-called backward areas of the world; it would at the same time stimulate world trade to such an extent that many of the tensions that now confront and trouble the nations would disappear as a matter of course.

EDITORIAL NOTES

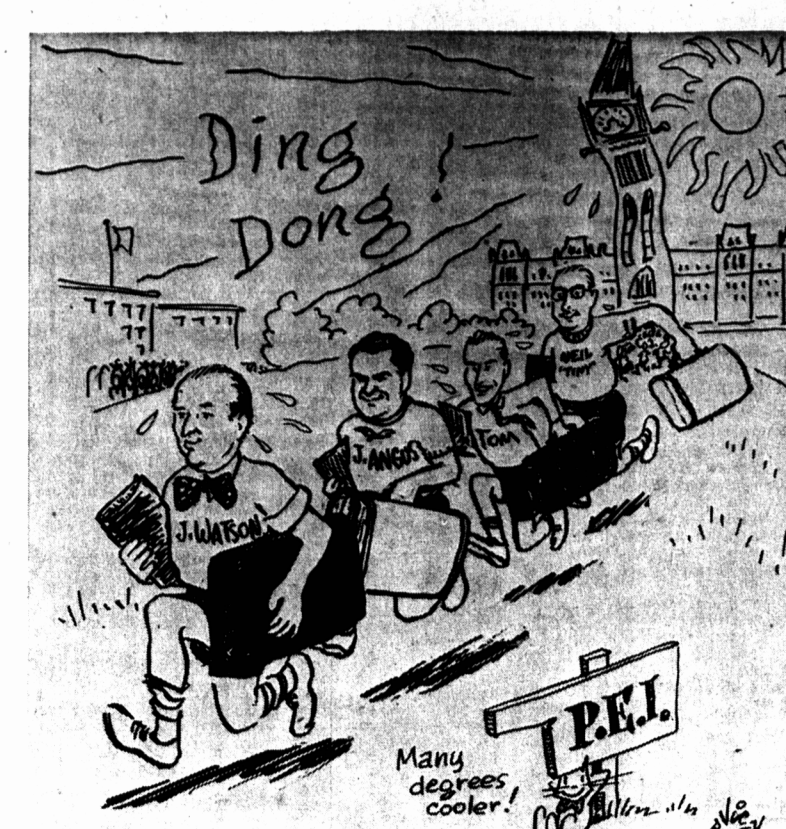
There appears to be a serious shortage of copper in American industry, which means that the newly developed mines in Newfoundland should get off to a good start.

Two sisters who took up dancing lessons in a New York studio recently caused quite a sensation. They are both well up in their 90's. Said one of them to an amazed reporter: "If you hear of any new steps, let us know. We don't want to miss anything."

Mr. Edward Dye, head of the industrial division of the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory in Buffalo, N. Y., says that something will have to be done about steering wheels if any improvement in the traffic situation is to be brought about. He calls them "deadly harpoons" and recommends their removal in favour of levers on either side of the driver.

Figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that 213,917 more motor vehicles were registered in Canada last year than in 1953. The increase was 6.2 per cent, from a total of 3,430,672 to 3,644,589, and was shared by every province. Of the grand total 2,682,430 registrations last year were of passenger cars, this classification accounting for 168,676 of the year's gains. There was last year a passenger car for each little group of 5.7 Canadians.

We hear so much about the irresponsible ways of modern youth that we are apt to forget there is still such a thing as youthful thoughtfulness. There is, though. At a small high school in Michigan, for instance, students who had saved \$300 for a class vacation gave it all to one of their teachers who had lost her home by fire. "We'll go on the trip another time," they said. And down in Los Angeles a troop of boy scouts, under the direction of their fathers, painted the house of their leader. "He's done so much for us," they explained, "we felt we should do something nice for him."



Free At Last

A Clammy Canadian Jungle

Bruce Hutchison in the Ottawa Citizen

Imprisoned in the dark jungle and endless winter of Vancouver Island I have been trying to imagine what an unprejudiced foreigner would say about these regions. If he were an honest man and not like me, a seville slave of local patriotism, I fancy he would write something like this: The natives of Vancouver Island—an area some 300 miles long which few of them have ever seen—are the victims of a mass hallucination well worth the investigation of psychiatrists. They have been persuaded by cunning propaganda and two sunny summers in 1887 and 1905, that they enjoy the best climate in the world.

Accordingly, when a weak sun breaks through the coastal clouds about the first of July, the more intelligent inhabitants of Victoria remember the original Celtic commandment and follow the birds into the wilderness. These birds, naturally, are waterfowl.

UNBELIEVABLE

Nothing except the suicidal migration of the lemmings across Northern Europe into the Atlantic Ocean is so moving, dumb and unbelievable as the midsummer madness of the Victorians.

This is a race which exactly fits Belloc's famous definition of the French people—they pour out of civilization, march into emptiness and return at last, having accomplished nothing but an epic. Vancouver Island, in summer, is such an epic.

Your reporter, travelling the Island on a fact-finding tour, was moved continually to admiration and pity at the spectacle of other-wise sane men leaving their comfortable, rain-proof, oil-heated homes to immerse themselves in the cold, the dampness and the physical labor of some broken shack beside a dizzying lake where the leaden sky is hidden by a solid roof of evergreen trees.

Inquiries among this articulate and secretive race elicit no answer. Clearly this annual hermitage is a religious exercise, derived from some ancient pagan faith too sacred for discussion and forever hidden from the stranger. A cult of blind worshipers is paying its tribute of human sacrifice to some secret god of the forest in exaltation of some forgotten sin.

And so deep is this folk feeling

that the misguided 'aborigines, when run to earth in their dismal lair, will assume you in their queer Island dialect that they are enjoying themselves. The psychologist is baffled and the layman loses his faith in human nature.

Nevertheless, there is something noble and heroic in this breed. Climate, labor and every kind of hardship cannot quite remove the lineaments of humanity. Even when crawling through their jungle and huddling before their smoky fires these creatures wear the semblance of men. Their ragged garments, smeared with sap, pitch and the scales of fish, evidently have come, by some mysterious system of barter, from a distant civilization.

CAN READ

Some of these people can even read a little and fill their dens with newspapers and magazines four or five years old, stubbornly asserting that this news is just as probable as anything happening today.

Recently your correspondent stumbled down an overgrown trail upon an old and feeble person who vaguely recalled that he had once been a journalist of sorts. He had seen something of the outside world in his youth but had abandoned it in horror.

Sodden with rain and bent with the toll of his primitive axe and saw, he even pretended to be an editor of Victoria but, when questioned closely, admitted in a voice cracked by long silence, that he could not remember what that settlement looked like. Dimly he recalled some prehistoric invention called streetcars and a great chieftain named Maquinna or Bennett who ruled their territories long ago.

When asked why he had left the haunts of men at the cost of his health and sanity, this lamentable relic looked at his intelligent and hard, glassy eye, multered some words in a strange tongue, picked up an axe of antique design and viciously attacked a dead fir tree. A lost man, beyond salvation.

The traveler thus is happy to escape a quagmire where no civilization can ever hope to prosper. When the seagulls, waterfowl and cookeys next return to the island, your correspondent will not be following them.

Those Flying Saucers

By Arthur Edson, Associated Press, Washington

Eight years ago this summer an Idaho business man, flying alone in his private plane, suddenly spotted mysterious objects playing about Mount Rainier in Washington State.

When Kenneth Arnold came down to earth, he dutifully reported what he had seen.

His report was to set off an astonishing chain reaction that was to sweep around the world. More and more saucers were seen by more and more people.

Anyone looking into this situation quickly learns that opinions of flying saucers slip into two widely separated slots:

POINTS OF VIEW

1. Those who believe in them, sincerely or often belligerently. These range from those who think the air force of his particular country really has a flying saucer but won't admit it, to those who think the saucers sail in from outer space, operated by fantastic little creatures.

2. Those who don't believe in them, sincerely and often sarcastically. These range from those who feel they can be explained away by official illusions to those who think it's sort of a mass delusion, perfectly in keeping with our edgy times.

Arnold told investigators that on June 24, 1947, he saw not one, but nine, of the weird objects. "I could see their outline quite plainly against the snow as they approached the mountain," Arnold said. "They flew very close by in a diagonal chain-like line, as if they were linked together.

A chain of saucer-like things at least five miles long, swerving in and out of the high mountain peaks.

FLAT LIKE A PIE PAN

"They were flat like a pie pan and so shiny they reflected the sun like a mirror. I never saw anything move so fast."

A man who takes his saucers seriously, Arnold told an Associated Press reporter, recently that he not only has spotted flying saucers four different times since that first occasion, but also has worked out a theory.

His view: They're living organisms of some sort "that come down to the lower atmosphere when they are disturbed by earthquakes, atomic explosions or things like that."

A 72-year-old air chief marshal, Lord Dowding, who commanded the fighter plane forces in the Battle of Britain, last year told a group of spiritualists:

"I believe there are people on other planets who are operating through flying saucers—to help our world in our present crisis."

SKEPTICS TOO

But if there are true believers there is also a formidable array of scientific opinion on the other side of the fence.

Dr. J. G. Porter, chief scientific officer of the Royal Observatory at Hurstmonceaux, England, says simply that there's no such thing as a flying saucer.

A Los Angeles doctor, Edgar F. Mauer, suggested it could be either cosmic volitanes or maybe even scintillating scotoma. Either

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of any subject of general interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

EDUCATIONAL REVOLUTION

Sir.—The word revolution has an unpleasant sound as it is sometimes associated with violence. We speak of the Industrial Revolution and the present mechanical revolution, and these recall to our minds comforts and blessings to mankind. The revolution that Prince Edward Island needs most and which is long overdue is an educational revolution. What I propose to discuss briefly is centralization of public schools, and in doing so I have the interests of Island children uppermost in my mind. As the Island is the most densely populated of the ten Provinces it therefore lends itself best to centralization. Anyone who compares the advantages pupils receive when brought together in sufficient numbers so that specialists can be employed for each subject, will agree that the little one or two room school belongs to the horse-and-buggy days.

Let us look briefly at some of the objections put forth by my good friends on P. E. I. I will not attempt to place them in order of importance but just as they occur to me: (1) The Island roads are not suitable for buses. To this I would say: will the roads ever be suitable unless the need arises? Get your big district and you have the necessary bus roads far sooner than you ever dreamed of. (2) Some one has suggested that the Island can't afford better schools. I am sure no intelligent person making such a statement can be serious.

If any one wishes to prove its fallacy, let him take a look at the sparkling limousines on any fine day on the streets of Charlottetown, Summerside or any place in the Province.

When I say good schools I include of course the teachers who must have the necessary academic training and physical equipment. A friend of mine complained in a recent letter, "We have a 3rd class teacher, a poor Grade XI, without the teacher training course."

I very much doubt the truth of the foregoing statement as I do not believe any self-respecting parent would tolerate such a state of affairs in 1955. Another friend writes me that they have a 2nd class male teacher in their school who got his license in 1930, and has kept school on the side while making a success of farming. This friend states that during the last twenty-five years the farmer-teacher has not by his knowledge taken even one summer course to improve his standing. He might retort with the fact that his salary has been and is so low that he could not afford to take further training. Please see to it that the salaries are such as to make it easily possible for your teacher to improve his status.

Would the farmer-teacher be satisfied to raise the same type of pigs as he did twenty-five years ago? If so, and if this practice were generally followed, would P. E. I. be leading all America in the quality of her bacon hogs today? Does this man have the same kind of dairy cows as he had twenty-five years ago? If he and others did not strive earnestly to improve their herds could you today boast of any champions?

I am, Sir, etc.
 J. M. MacDONALD, Eekville, Alberta.

way it added up to approximately the same thing: Spots before the eyes.

On Dec. 15, 1954, President Eisenhower told a press conference he had been assured it is completely inaccurate to believe flying saucers are coming from outer space.

But some government experts have supplied pictorial hints as to where such ideas may originate. Only July 1 the navy released a photograph of an "unusual cloud formation over the city of Marseille, France."

It look startlingly like a flying saucer.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. GUARD AGAINST SUNBURN WHILE GETTING YOUR TAN

This is the time of year for vacations — and sunburns. • Every summer, doctors, throughout the country, treat countless patients who unthinkingly have stayed out in the sun too long trying to acquire that coveted coat of tan.

Let me pass a long a few tips that may save you from a severe burn and several days and nights of agony.

If you are light-skinned, you're going to burn more easily than dark-skinned friends. Blondes and redheads are likely to burn more quickly than brunettes. Men burn more easily than do women. And children tolerate only about half the dose of ultraviolet irradiation that an adult does. Negroes burn only if previously sensitized by certain industrial and other chemicals.

Dry-skinned persons burn more easily than those with oily skins. Whether they are blonde or brunette, women are most susceptible in the first five days of the menses and in the second to seventh months of pregnancy.

HEAT RAYS

Sunburn is caused by ultraviolet rays and not heat rays. Remember, these skin-burning rays can easily penetrate a light cover of clouds. Remember, also, that the rays are reflected by sun and water and you can get a bad burn in a short time at the beach.

It is one of the utmost importance to get your summer tan slowly. At the beginning, limit your sunbathing to two to three times the period it takes to make your skin a faint pink. If you remain in the sun five times that period, you will get a painful burn.

CREAMS AND LOTIONS

There are innumerable creams, ointments and lotions designed to prevent sunburn. The more effective anti-burn substances probably contain mineral oil or a combination of mineral, sesame and peanut oils. They absorb ultraviolet radiation and materially diminish effects of the sun.

COLD COMPRESSES

But if you're already burned, it is too late to think about anti-burn lotions. Now you've got to relieve that awful pain. I think application of an effective anesthetic cold cream, such as one containing 2 per cent benzocaine, will be helpful. Ice-cold compresses of milk, mineral oil or carroll oil probably will help, too.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. C. W.: What is the cause of bad breath and what treatment can be used?
 Answer: Bad odor of the breath may come from several things: infected teeth, tonsils or adenoids, or infection of the nose or nasal sinuses.

The most frequent cause is found in the teeth, where there may be cavities or lack of cleanliness due to insufficient care of the mouth and teeth and not eating bulky foods.

A thorough examination should be made by your physician to determine the cause so that proper treatment may be prescribed.

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FOREST OF FRIENDS

Fill your arms with daisies. You shall see them still, countless summer blossoms spilling down the hill.

Frame against your blue wall blooms you yet shall name, flowers found in woodland; claim their pinkish flame;

knowing others hidden where the thrushes go wait for quiet seekers, growing near the doe.

Wild? Not tiny blossoms. See who chose and smiled, one who gave found treasures: child, by gifts beguiled.

—Joseph Joel Keith. In the Christian Science Monitor.

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NOTES BY THE WAY
 There aren't too many stories going the rounds these days about the huge catches of fish. So far, the Izaak Walton has confined themselves to describing how fish hooks got caught in their fingers. —Marsy's Observer.

We don't imagine the Whitby example will take very firm root anywhere, but it was rather refreshing for a change. Meanwhile we will still welcome pictures of Miss Peach Festival, Miss Garden City, Miss Canada, Miss America, Miss Europe, Miss Universe, and Miss Frozen Asparagus. —Brantford Expositor.

The role of the professional public accountant is a vital one in our modern business community. In his field of financial facts and figures, to the layman, who has a tough time in his unpractised way trying to balance his own small budget, the chartered accountant perhaps seems a mysterious creature. But to corporations, companies and investors at large the profession of chartered accountancy is a very real thing. —Montreal Star.

Some people may be found to rally round any cause. The evidence of it is in a New York group styled "Friends of Richard 111, Inc." who hope to prove that the hunch-backed British ruler was "one of the first victims of the big lie." That is going back several centuries to find a comrade, as if there were not many a potent contemporary one for which to raise a banner. At a meeting of the other night the group announced its hope to convince historians and the public that Shakespeare and others maligned Richard. They claim that the Tudor kings, his successors, destroyed many documents which would have shown Richard wasn't as he is painted. They have set themselves a difficult task to erase the impression left by Shakespeare's play. —Sydney Post-Record.

The Crockett legend, which many parents have accepted as offering a better example than some previous fads covers, according to some authorities a multitude of unglamorous details in the life of the noted frontiersman who became a member of Congress. A list of Crockett's alleged deficiencies, such as being a poor workman, an unsuccessful politician, and a hack writer, includes also, according to Harper's magazine, the charge that he was a violinist! The strategy of Crockett's foes thus becomes clear. We shall not spell it out. But we wonder how many alert young Crocketts will perceive a more devious tactic in the reference to Davy's being a writer? It may take only a little more research to prove that his writings included poetry! —Christian Science Monitor.

Money isn't everything, and don't let anybody tell you it is. There are other things, such as stocks, bonds, letters of credit, travelers' checks and drafts. —Marsy's (Kans) Advocate

It should not be difficult to find the source and cause of juvenile delinquency. First note the children running the streets at late hours; then go to the homes and see if the parents are there and the extent to which they are concerned. —Port Arthur News - Chronicle.

Whether you are for or against fluoridation of drinking water it may interest you to know that Cleveland has joined Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, San Francisco, Milwaukee and other large U. S. cities in adopting it. Grand Rapids reports a reduction of 7 per cent of dental caries among school children since the water was fluoridated. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

All the Senate needs, all it has ever needed, to become influential and respected, is to have men and women of outstanding ability — Liberals, Conservatives, Socialists, or whatever — entering it as vacancies occur. The rest will look after itself. Mr. St. Laurent, it seems, is now ready to proceed along these lines. For that he deserves the highest commendation. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

At his press conference recently President Eisenhower had the opportunity, without knowing it to the point, of speaking directly to the Russian people. Tass, the official Russian news agency, without comment, reported the views of the U. S. president in Moscow's Friday newspapers. In the report, President Eisenhower referred to the "fiddle" of who ruled the Soviet Union and the obstacle which Russia's "satellites" presented to world peace. For the first time since the start of the cold war the Communists have permitted an uncensored and apparently unbiased report on the position of the United States toward world problems. Never before has the Soviet press printed declarations that world peace was unobtainable until the satellites were "able to determine their own form of government freely." —Galt Evening Reporter.

The Age Old Story
 I have declared, and have saved and have shewed, when there was no strange god among you; therefore ye are my witnesses, Saith the Lord, that I am God.

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