

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

THURSDAY, JAN. 26, 1956

Civic Affairs

The comprehensive reviews submitted at the annual meeting of the City Council last night are both encouraging and disturbing. The fact that the net debt is now \$3,766,848, representing an increase of \$156,526 during the past year, is certainly a matter of concern. A large part of this increase was due to capital expenditure for streets, etc., and the chairman of the finance committee takes occasion to complain that his efforts to practice economy in this connection had been overruled by the Council. On the other hand, he is able to report the consolidated sinking funds to be in excellent condition. He also stresses the heavy expenditures involved in supplying improved public services and in extending services to new areas which are being developed, as well as in increased educational costs.

A much more satisfactory picture is presented in current account. The civic centennial celebrations, which were outstandingly successful and which cost the city \$29,403, were written off instead of being charged over a period of years and the City came out with a surplus in revenue over expenditure of some \$30,952. This was achieved largely as a result of obtaining from Ottawa a grant of \$21,274 in lieu of taxes on federal property, and a grant of \$36,724 from the Provincial Government toward street work at the entrance to the city.

That the finance committee worked hard during the year is evident from the satisfactory tax collection figures. All the committees appear to have been conscientious in their duties and marked progress is reported in several departments.

His Worship the Mayor stresses the fact that more revenue is needed if municipal obligations are to be met in the future. He suggests that provincial properties be taxed in the same manner as federal properties, also that the municipality is entitled to tax at least part of the stock in the government liquor store, proportionately to that which is purchased by residents of the city, and that it should also share in the gasoline tax on the basis of the gallonage consumed by motor vehicles owned by local citizens. This is a matter which will doubtless be aired more fully in the Legislature. It is in issue all across Canada at the present time. The municipalities appear to have a good case on equitable grounds; but the Provinces too are hard pressed for revenue. It is to be hoped that some solution will be found in the new tax rental agreements with Ottawa, about which there is still a good deal of uncertainty.

One thing in which Ottawa certainly can help us is in developing the Charlottetown airport. Mayor Stewart hopes to see action being taken this year, so that the facilities will be adequate to service the larger type of craft, and the maintenance of the Maritime Central Airways can be carried on here rather than at Moncton, as is the case at the present time.

Differences Of Opinion

A meeting between the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Great Britain is always an occasion of great importance. However, Sir Anthony Eden was careful to point out the other day, in referring to his forthcoming trip to Washington that the importance of such meeting should not be judged by the degree of unanimity which may happen to prevail. This, probably, was a diplomatic way of saying that too many agreements should not be expected to result from next week's meeting between him and Mr. Eisenhower. There will be agreements, of course. An almost certain one will be on the necessity for a common front to offset the growing Communist influence in Asia and the Middle East. But there will be differences of opinion, too; and some of these are likely to concern ways and means of bringing about that common front.

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Although the United States was a party to the censure resolution voted by the U. N. Security Council against Israel for its alleged aggressive acts against Syria, reports indicate that public opinion in the United States, with respect to the current disputes in the Middle East, is swinging more and more in favour of Israel. This being an election year, the administration can hardly be expected to ignore that trend. In Britain, on the other hand, treaty commitments with certain Arab countries and growing impatience with Israel's virtual refusal to consider the British Government's proposals for a settlement of outstanding problems, make for a somewhat different appraisal. In the Far East situation, the continued American support of the Chinese Nationalists, especially with respect to the offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu, is a constant source of irritation to the British Government. Rightly or wrongly, Sir Anthony has always been of the opinion that these islands, which apparently have little strategic value, should be abandoned to the Chinese Communists, if such action would in any way relieve tension in that area of danger. Even as regards Formosa itself, Britain and the United States are not fully agreed on what should be done with it now or in the future. As for Communist China's ambition to become a member of the United Nations, that, too, is a controversial subject. The British Government has promised no support for the perennial application, but its attitude in the matter is by no means as rigid as that of the United States.

Yes, there are differences of opinion—some of them not trivial ones—that will have to be discussed by the President and the Prime Minister. But, of course, there would be no point in Sir Anthony's travelling to Washington at all if such differences did not exist; and, surely, one glory of free and democratic political institutions is the allowance they make for divergent opinions on how to reach broad common objectives. That, perhaps more than any other single bit of brightness is what places them above the bleakness of the totalitarian state.

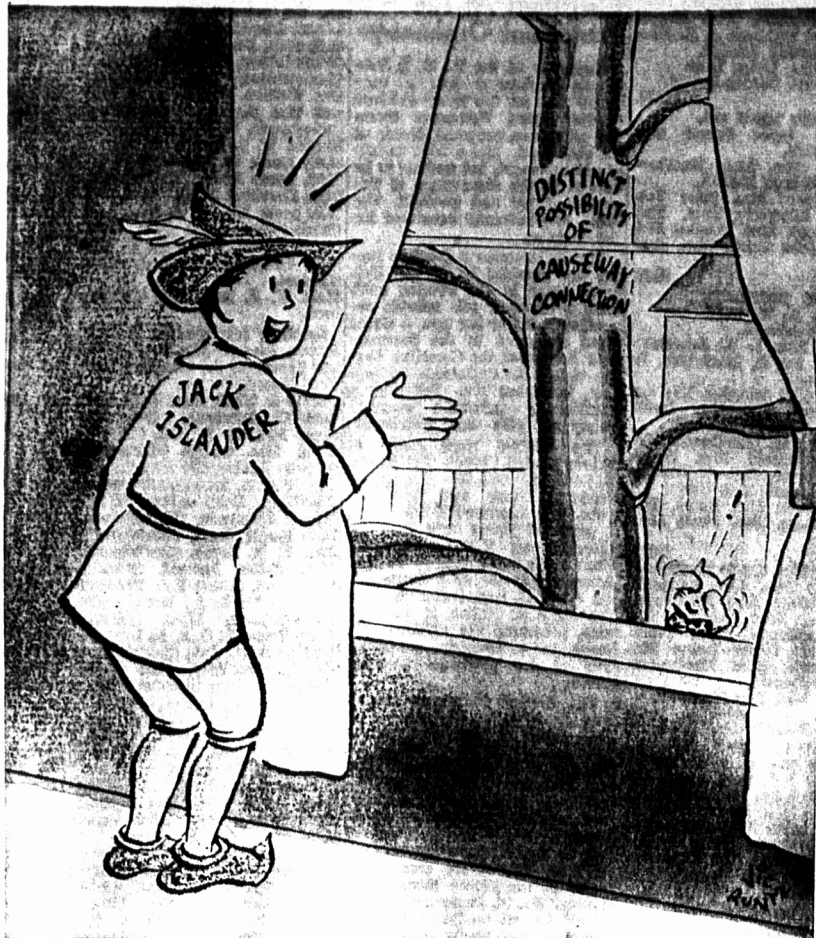
EDITORIAL NOTES

Many friends in this Province will regret to learn of the death of Miss Nora Bateson, who established the Carnegie Regional Library here which is the basis of our present fine provincial library service.

Archaeologists studying the history of the Near East have found the Bible an invaluable guide in locating ancient sites. According to Dr. Nelson Glueck, of the Hebrew Union College, who recently made an archaeological and economic survey of the Negev desert in Israel, traces of hundreds of ancient settlements have been found in the area which confirm accounts in the Book of Genesis describing Abraham's journey from Palestine to Egypt and back. This research proves that the Negev has not always been an empty wilderness and today Israeli scientists are attempting to restore its former fertility.

There is certainly nothing impracticable from an engineering standpoint in a nine-mile causeway across Northumberland Strait. Just now a Soviet engineer is proposing to build a dam across the fifty-mile-wide Bering Strait, dividing Siberia from Alaska. This would give Russia an Arctic coastline extending from the Strait to the White Sea navigable the year round. It would keep icebergs and Arctic currents out of the Pacific and warm up Siberia and North America.

For the want of a shoe the horse was lost. Yes, and for want of a one-cent postage stamp President Eisenhower may lose his coveted surplus for the next fiscal year. The President has asked Congress for that much increase in first class letter rates, and has estimated that it would bring in about \$350 million a year, almost exactly the amount of the proposed surplus. Congressional leaders, however, are cool to the proposal and are suggesting that Mr. Eisenhower should look elsewhere for the surplus money. "Increased postage rates in an election year? Why, it's not reasonable," said one leading Republican. It wouldn't be a vote getter, that's certain.



OVERNIGHT!

Malta's Referendum

By Robert Rice
Canadian Press Staff, London

By ROBERT RICE
Malta, a rocky plateau in the Mediterranean without rivers, lakes or forests, will vote next month on its future.

A referendum, set for Feb. 11-12, will show whether the 320,000 people of Malta want their tiny island linked intimately with Britain in the same way as Northern Ireland. The word is "integration," but some Maltese significantly prefer "union."

If accepted in Malta and approved in Britain, integration would allow Malta to send three elected representatives to sit with equal rights in the House of Commons at Westminster, 1,200 miles away.

EVIDENCE HEARD
A British parliamentary all-party round table conference heard evidence in London and Malta, and subsequently recommended:

"We believe that the people of Malta are entitled to a special road to political equality, and that that road should be, if they so choose, representation at Westminster."
British Conservatives see the integration plan as "novel and imaginative." Laborites call it a "fascinating experiment."
The man who first suggested integration, Dominic (Dom) Mintoff, son of a cook in the Royal Navy and Malta's prime minister since last February, originally sought political and economic equality—representation at Westminster. British taxation and an equal share of Britain's social services, plus more financial aid.

FOUND UNWORKABLE
But the round table conference found some of his economic proposals unworkable, and specifically recommended that the question of taxation be left "in abeyance." On this issue, The Economist, a British weekly, chuckles:
"Having lost part of its empire through insisting on taxation without representation in the 18th century, Britain is trying to save another bit by generously agreeing to representation without taxation in the 20th."
But Malta is strategically vital to Britain. The island, smaller than the area of London's boroughs—straddles the shortest sea route between the West and the Middle and Far East. Its naval and air bases are in the narrows between Sicily and North Africa. During the Second World War, the island fortress was battered heavily by enemy bombs, and the late King George VI honored Maltese gallantry by awarding the island the George Cross.

KNIGHTS' HAVEN
Malta's traditional ties with Britain began in 1814 when the Maltese voluntarily became British subjects. Before that, many countries conquered and controlled the island, and for several centuries it was the haven of the crusading Knights of St. John.

Napoleon's Tomb

(Hamilton Spectator)

An auctioneer the other day in London, England, excelled himself when he actually sold a tooth whose owner passed on over 130 years ago. In Sotheby's, famed auction hall of rare items, one of Napoleon's teeth appeared in a lot which fetched 38 pounds.
The lot, it must be admitted, also comprised a lock of the emperor's hair and the Order of the Legion d'honneur which he wore at Waterloo. Though it was probably the tooth—the first from the mouth of a dictator to be auctioned at Sotheby's—which stimulated the bidding.
While a precedent has been set, it remains extremely doubtful that there'll ever be a market for discarded teeth.
But not even the teeth of former dictators will ever make the same impact in the auction rooms as an old postage stamp, a silver tureen, a bust of Charles II and a genuine first edition. They wouldn't look right reclining on the whatnot or mantelpiece.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(January 26, 1931)

Only once since her launching has the Rocky Point ferry exceeded the record for late crossing set up this winter. In 1932 she ran until January 24, this year she made her last trip on January 22, two days ahead. Since that date the crossings have been made by iceboat.

By following in the footsteps of Sir Wilfred Laurier, "Canada will rise above present day troubles to greater heights than ever before" was voiced by Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King at the inauguration of the Laurier Club, Canada has more than her share of advantages, he said, and by means of seaborn trade and the "Laurier touch" she must grow to still greater nationhood.

Captain Lewis A. Yancey landed at Havana, Cuba, at 3.12 this afternoon, on a flight from Key West, Fla., in the first airplane ever to land on Cuban soil.

TEN YEARS AGO
(January 26, 1946)

The United Nations today created a commission to control atomic energy for peace, and Canada was elected as one of the members. This was the first decisive action on a major issue undertaken by the general assembly. It was hailed by the United States as a necessary step to save the world from an atomic armaments race.

The United States War Department announced that the Army Signal Corps, using especially designed equipment with an extremely high frequency had made successful radar contact with the moon. The high frequency pulses were shot into space at the speed of light—186,000 miles-per-second—and echoes were received some 2 1/2 seconds later. The distance to the moon is approximately 238,877 miles.

At an emergency meeting of the Wartime Advisory Steel Committee in Ottawa today, plans were formulated with a view of offsetting the serious effects on Canadian industry, which may be caused by the present steel strike in the United States.

LIGHT OPERA
Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore" was originally played in London in 1878.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

TONSILLITIS IN CHILDREN

Acute tonsillitis is an ever-present danger to your children. Although it is common among children and young adults, this disease seldom attacks infants or the aged. The cause varies, but generally the disease is transmitted from person to person via bacteria. This is especially true in epidemics.

If your youngster is stricken, he'll probably complain of a sudden chill, a headache and an aching pain in the back. The very first day his temperature may shoot up to 104 degrees.

His face will be pale, his tongue heavily coated and his breath offensive. His neck glands probably will be enlarged and tender and he will complain of pain upon swallowing.

Generally, this disease is not really anything to worry about if you call your doctor in time. In most cases, the temperature will fall in about three or four days and your youngster will quickly regain his health.

SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS

However, there can be serious complications, especially in children, such as acute rheumatism, acute nephritis and bronchitis.

Anyone with acute tonsillitis belongs in bed. As a rule, the doctor will restrict the diet to liquids and jellies since they are easy to swallow and are nourishing.

Apply warm applications to the throat. The patient may also inhale powdered aspirin to help relieve the pain.

SEVERE INJECTION

Sulfonamide drugs, if administered, should be prescribed by a physician. If the infection is really severe, or resists sulfonamide, he will probably give penicillin intramuscularly every six hours until the child's temperature has subsided.

Salines and calomel may be advised to provide free bowel action.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mr. T. C.: I have pyorrhea. How should I have it treated?
Answer: Usually, a person suffering from pyorrhea should have his dentist scale the teeth to remove any tartar and other deposits that accumulate between the teeth around the gum lining. Surgical treatment may also be helpful.

You should brush your teeth at least twice a day, as well as massage the gums.

The Age Old Story

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

Notes By The Way

A New Jersey woman has waited five years for her fiancé, an embezzler of \$600,000, to get out of prison, and will marry him when he does. If she casts calculating glances at his luggage, maybe that's to be expected.—Windsor Star.

An educational authority says regular period in school should be allotted to day-dreaming, followed by an hour in which the pupils may act out, creatively, what they have imagined. But what happens to Junior who has been dreaming about pinching the little blonde in the third row?—Calgary Herald

Now two young men are claiming a world record or something for keeping a ping-pong ball in continuous motion for fourteen hours and nineteen minutes. Had they been required by an employer to work continuously for fourteen hours and nineteen minutes their complaints would have been something to hear!—Ottawa Journal.

Although the term "Prairie Provinces" applies to Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba, the area which is actual treeless prairie occurs more in Saskatchewan and to a lesser extent in Alberta, and to a very small area of Manitoba. It is confined to the southern portions of these provinces; not farther north than Saskatchewan in this province; or Red Deer and Lacombe in Alberta. The northern areas of all three provinces are treed parkland. There is not the vast open space for the wind to mount great velocity. The snowfall is heavier in the north than in the south, and drifting is not so serious as it is in the southern regions.—Moose Jaw Times-Herald

A gentleman of our acquaintance walked into the office. His hands literally shook as he told of having just missed killing a little girl by a matter of a few inches. It seems the youngster had suddenly shot out of an alley on a sleigh, directly into the path of his automobile. Her brother followed on another sleigh seconds later. Neither was old enough to provide the shaken motorist with name and address. So disturbed was this motorist that he telephoned the police and he didn't go on his way until a constable arrived to take care of the youngsters.—Sheerbrooke Record.

Sign in a Glasgow restaurant reads: "In case of an atomic attack, keep calm, and don't forget to pay your check."—Toronto Star.

Credit buying, which is as prevalent in Canada as it is in the United States, is causing grave concern to American economists, not so much at the total debt but the rate at which it is increasing. Five billion dollars have been added to the amount in the United States during the past year, bringing the total up to \$27,000,000,000, mostly for automobiles.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

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