The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

Wonderful News

The happier turn which the Cuban crisis has taken over the weekend is a matter for profound thanksgiving throughout the world. Premier Khrushchev's promise to dismantle and pull the Soviet rocket bases out of Cuba was given, he states, "in order to serve the cause of peace, to give confidence to all peoples longing for peace, and to calm the people of America who, I am sure, want peace as much as the peoples of the Soviet Union."

On the principle that one shouldn't look a gift horse in the mouth, this almost incredibly mild statement from the Soviet Premier need not be examined too minutely for its underlying motives. The fact that the whole tenor of the statement is pitched in this conciliatory tone is the cardinal one at this time. It has been hailed by Western spokesmen with great satisfaction, and President Kennedy himself has commented upon the statesmanlike attitude it reveals.

It is erroneous, of course, to describe it—as is done in a Reuters' despatch from Moscow—as as "unconditional" pledge of Soviet armament withdrawal from Cuba. The condition was inherent in Mr. Kennedy's prior assurance that no attack will be made upon Cuba, either by the U.S. or by other countries of the Western hemisphere. Mr. Khrushchev claims that this is all the nuclear weapons were intended to insure in the first place—that they were a "defensive" precaution against "any rash action being permitted to take place."

This is a hard statement to swallow; but it could well be that their purpose, in part, was to achieve an American guarantee of non-aggression against Cuba. In any case, that would seem very definitely to be the understanding on which Mr. Khrushchev has made his pitch for ending the crisis.

We have seen no reference to the behind-the-scenes work of the Acting Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Thant, in achieving this compromise. But we have no doubt, when the history of the past few days comes to be written, that he will figure in it with credit.

The French Referendum

President de Gaulle's plan for strengthening the office he holds was indorsed by a 61.75 per cent vote in yesterday's referendum. If he accepts this as a satisfactory majority (there was some question of this at the time of writing) he will remain as head of the state; if he doesn't, he will resign. In any case, it would appear that the Cuban crisis played into his hand by driving domestic politics off the French front page and convincing French voters on the need of keeping a strong man at the helm. That, more than the merits of the issue before them, tilted the scales.

The question asked in the referendum, whether future French presidents should be chosen by universal adult suffrage, might not seem an important one from this distance. But direct elections of a president in a parliamentary system where the president is supposed to stand above politics could prove a dangerous constitutional anomaly. And a president that can dissolve parliament although parliament cannot challenge the president's right might soon become a dictator.

Misgivings about the de Gaulle program were shared not only by most of the leading parliamentarians in France, but by such outstanding political philosophers as Raymond Aron. M. Aron maintained that under the proposed system it would be possible for a "second rate" person lacking the authority of de Gaulle to come to office and be saddled with his immeasurable responsibilities. There would be no nomination of two outstanding men, as under the American system, to confront each other for the people's choice. M. Aron foresaw a situation in which the nation would have nothing more than a rubber stamp parliament to echo the president's choice.

The Late Mr. McLean

Prince Edward Island has lost one of its finest citizens in the passing, on Saturday, of Mr. Harry D. McLean, of Souris. Prominent for many years as a merchant and Conservative member in the Legislature, Mr. McLean combined outstanding ability with very high ideals with regard to his conduct both as a citizen and public man, though he was far too modest to claim any such distinction.

His record, however, spoke for itself; and those privileged to know him personally will treasure his memory and recall his many sterling qualities—his conscientiousness, his integrity, and his invariable kindness and courtesy which were shown as much in the heat of a political campaign as at any other time.

Indeed, Mr. McLean was held in such repute that his word was accepted on any subject as carrying all the validity of an affidavit. This applied strikingly to his statements in the Legislature and to the respect in which he was held there by colleagues and opponents alike. He maintained the same high standards in his business relations, and in all the other activities in which he engaged.

To his bereaved family and relatives The Guardian tenders its deepest sympathy at this time.

Strike Threat Ended

All our citizens will hail the success of the Federal mediator, and the common sense of both the parties involved, in ending the strike threat against the Canadian Pacific Railway by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. The strike, which had been called for today, was settled by agreement on Saturday.

Under the tension of these times, failure on the part of the disputants to avoid bringing one of the essential railways of Canada to a standstill would have forced the Government to take firm action. Since the Government itself is in a minority position in Parliament, this is just the kind of action that it might have had difficulty in putting into effect. With railway votes at stake, the political implications would be in the forefront on both sides of the House.

Let's not speculate any more on what might have happened. Sufficient for the day, in this case, was the evil thereof. The dispute has been settled, and if there was compromise on both sides that's all the more to the credit of the parties involved. Now we can get back to worrying about other matters.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Would things have been different, asks the Ottawa Journal plaintively, if Castro had had sense enough to shave and put on a tie when his revolution was over?

* * *

There is no letup in the repressive program of discrimination which the South Africa government is practicing. The latest order prohibits for the next six months all gatherings called to protest against "the arrest, custody, trial, conviction or release of any persons for any offense."

* * *

It is shocking to reflect that, even in recent years, about 35 per cent of Canadian students who entered elementary schools left at or before Grade 8, while another 35 per cent left school before obtaining their junior matriculation. This point was made recently by Mr. W. R. Dymond, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Labor, and its direct bearing on the unemployment situation will be obvious to all.

POLITICAL HURRICANE SEASON

WILL BLAZE TRAIL FOR MAN

Amazing Development In Rocketed Robots

National Geographic News Bulletin

The Columbus of the Space Age is a machine. Man is going to the moon someday, but talented hardware is finding the way for him.

In the October issue of National Geographic, staff writer Frank Sartwell describes the astonishing array of robots that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans to send on the 238,000-mile journey to the moon.

The first American moon machines are Rangers, which will be launched by powerful rockets. "Someday they will seem as crude as Columbus's Santa Maria today," Mr. Sartwell writes. "But to our eyes they are amazing, and they do amazing things."

VERSATILE MACHINE

"If the rockets and all the Ranger systems work," he continues, "Ranger will see; it will feel; it will count; it will remember. It will turn and twist in space — by command or on its own initiative. Ranger will capture sunlight, turn it into electricity, then into radio waves. It will take pictures and relay them to earth. (Like human photographers, Ranger must be ready to remove its lens cap.) It will tell us much about what the moon is made of."

This spacecraft is 8¼ feet high and divided into two major parts. Ranger's larger section—the "basic bus" — is a hexagon of gold-plated electronic boxes with two wingtike solar panels and two antennas. Above these rests the second section, the lunar capsule, a 24½-inch ball that will alight on the moon.

Of the four Rangers launched, only one hit the moon, and it sent back no information. When Ranger 5, scheduled for firing this fall, is 2,500 miles from the moon, it is expected to point its TV camera and begin taking pictures.

As Ranger flies ever nearer, it will make more than 150 lunar closeups, each covering a smaller area than the one before, with increasingly better definition. It should discern objects the size of a compact car.

The photographic mission ends when Ranger is 70,000 feet above the moon. The basic bus will be detached from the lunar capsule and crash into the moon. The capsule, slowed by a retrorocket and protected by a balsa wood shell, will bounce onto the moon's surface to do its job.

MOONQUAKE SENSOR

The principal instruments in the capsule will be a radio transmitter and a moonquake sensor. The radio will relay the readings of the seismometer; which is so sensitive it will be able to feel the shock of a five-pound meteorite hitting the other side of the moon.

The instrument will count the number and size of meteors striking the moon, vital information for future moon voyagers. It will tell what the moon's surface is like— whether there is a firm crust to support manned ships.

Mr. Sartwell says the seismometer may also yield a clue to the origin of the solar system.

"There are two chief theories of the solar system's formation. One theory holds that the planets were pulled from the sun in blobs of hot gas when another star passed close by. The second theory maintains that the planets formed from a huge mass of cold dust and gas.

"Earth is so large that its own weight could have squeezed its core into a molten state. Some astronomers do not believe that the moon is massive enough to create the interior heat necessary to form a molten core on its own. If a liquid lunar core is found, the hot-gas theory will be strengthened

Better Fed Than Red

NEA Service, Washington

WASHINGTON — (Special)— "The greatest deterrent to the spread of communism may not be the missile program, but the Communists' inability to satisfy their people's food wants."

These words were spoken recently by W.B. Murphy, president of one of the nation's largest food processing companies. They voice not an opinion but a fact that is being increasingly recognized around the world.

From East Germany to Red China, in Russia itself, the Communist system of collective farms and state-controlled agriculture is faltering. Only in Poland, where largely abandoned, is there collectivization has been anything approaching abundance.

Why?

Examining the differences between the United States and Russia, Murphy explodes the argument that Russia's cold climate is responsible for its agricultural problems. Its climate is similar to that of Canada, where as in the U.S. the government is plagued with surpluses. Actually, Russia has 40 per cent more available cropland than America, possesses vast grazing and dairy areas and boasts some of the richest soil in the world.

IMMEDIATE REASON

An immediate reason for America's superiority in this field is our intensive use of machines, fertilizers and pesticides. But this is something that Russia's centralized planners could accomplish, although they have not done so yet.

No, there is something else lacking in the Communist system that goes to the heart of the matter. That is the absence of freedom— to put it in more prosaic words, the absence of give and take between farmer and consumer, free operation of supply and demand, competition between housewives' dollar.

Rather, under communism, the farmer is told what he shall plant and what he shall be paid for it, and the consumer is told what he shall eat and how much it shall cost him.

Some room for private enterprise does exist in Russia. Farmers are permitted to cultivate small plots on their own time and sell the produce. Yet while this allowance amounts to only about 4 per cent of farm acreage, it produces about 30 per cent of all vegetables and meat consumed by 220 million Russians.

LONG OVERDUE

An agonizing reappraisal is long overdue for the Communists. It would be foolish, however, to look for them to turn to some sort of free enterprise, for collectivized agriculture, completely under the direction of the party bureaucracy, is one of the fundamental doctrines of communism.

Yet the longer the harsh facts are resisted, the more serious does the situation become. Russia may win the race to the moon, but if it fails to demonstrate its superiority in so basic a thing as the food people put in their mouths, then the world-wide Communist tide may well begin to ebb.

Murphy's words, "Neutrals must inevitably conclude... that is the better to be fed than go Red."

ROTATION DELAYED

BONN (Reuters) — An exchange of Canadian troops stationed in West Germany, due to begin Thursday, has been postponed indefinitely because of the Cuban crisis, a Canadian embassy spokesman said here Friday. He said a similar "rotation" was postponed last year because of the building of the Berlin wall.

PUBLIC FORUM

STATEMENTS REFUTED

Sir,—The editor of Hunter's Corner, who continues to snipe at the R.C.M.P. game wardens and the Fish and Game Association, has his usual share of half-truths in the Oct. 26th edition.

Mr. Jenkins was game Warden in 1956, after years and years as he says "getting to know every part of P.E.I." That year this man of wisdom had 10 convictions under the Fish and Game act.

In 1958 the 1st. year the R.C.M.P. took over they had 56 prosecutions and 55 convictions. I am sure last year was much higher.

Mr. Jenkins says "I have verified that out of 400 Hungarian partridge eggs imported from England at one dollar per egg, just one lone chick was hatched." This is not even a half-truth. Not one egg was taken into this province from England last year or any other year by the Fish and Game Association or the Department of Industries. With a smile on his face he further states, "They were told through the medium of this column that the venture would be a failure."

It seems rather odd, Mr. Editor, that any individual and in particular Mr. Jenkins would be so happy over the failure of any effort made to help improve conditions that even he admits have deteriorated so alarmingly in the past 10 years.

He cries about our local hunters slaughtering birds 12 months of the year. There are fifteen million gunners in the U.S.A. If each one killed a duck and every second one wounded a duck the supply would have to be over 20,000,000 ducks a year. One does not have to be an editor of Hunter's Corner to realize that that is a lot of birds.

I am, Sir, etc.,

WENDELL MACDONALD M.D.
President Fish and Game Ass'n.

BAD ROAD CONDITIONS

Sir, — I wonder why more attention isn't paid to widening out or at least cutting trees on side roads. Some of them aren't fit to walk over, let alone drive a good car! I cover a lot of territory each week and it's pretty disgusting to figure on taking a short cut and then having to be hauled out of a hole with a tractor.

Last week, taking a short (?) cut across country from New Glasgow to Fredericton, I travelled over two roads that should be closed if the Government is too unconcerned about at least cutting the trees. I left St. Mary's Road to go across to St. Patricks - that was my first mistake - then taking the next side road was a worse error. It's not only narrow, but there's a lovely brook running down the middle of it!

Don't the people in these localities care about their vehicles? Have they no road supervisor? Why aren't signs put up "Travel at your own risk." "Carry Pontoons." If it were my own car, it wouldn't be too bad, but I drive a Company Car and am responsible for it's upkeep—

I could name a dozen or more roads such as these, but these stick, because I got stuck!

I am, Sir, etc.

DISGUSTED TRAVELLER
Charlottetown.

Flu Forecasts Often Erroneous

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

MANY health authorities talk like farmers when it comes to predicting an epidemic of influenza. Asian flu crops out in two or three year cycles. This coming winter will be the third since the last outbreak in the U.S.A. and it is natural to suspect another epidemic.

There is another clue. Last spring isolated cases of Asian flu occurred in many parts of the country. Such spring seeding, as it is called, usually is the forerunner of fall and winter outbreaks. The influenza virus goes into hibernation during warm weather and comes to life with cold, damp days.

But health authorities can be as wrong as those who forecast the weather. The epidemic may fizzle out or never get started if our population has acquired immunity through contact with the A2 virus during the two previous epidemics or via the flu vaccine. There is no simple way to determine whether immunity exists and it is safer and easier to get the vaccine than to take a chance of becoming a statistic.

In late 1957 and early 1958; the first wave of Asian flu struck a susceptible population and the number of deaths above the normal expectation increased 59,300. The second epidemic hit two years later and the excessive death toll amounted to 26,700.

Influenza is a common cause of absenteeism in industry and schools but most of the victims get well after a few days at home. Some experience fatigue thereafter and complications prolong the illness for much longer periods. Prevention is stressed because there are no specific remedies. Many industries offer the flu vaccine to their employees for this reason, giving the first dose in October or November and the second, two or three months later.

Influenza is particularly dangerous to pregnant women and persons with chronic heart, circulatory, or kidney disorders. More than 50 per cent of those who died during the previous epidemics suffered from one or more of these general ailments. Many of the victims also developed pneumonia which added to the burden of chronically diseased lungs.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped self - addressed envelope accompanies request.)

BALD PATCHES

R.P. writes: My 5½ year old granddaughter has thin hair and patches with just a light fuzz. Her parents cut her hair before she was one year old. Could this be a cause of her poor hair?

REPLY

No, but the almost bald patches are not normal and the condition should be investigated for ringworm or other disorders.

SMOKER'S DISEASE

I.N. writes: Does Buerger's disease favor diabetics?

REPLY

No. Circulatory disorders are common in diabetics but are caused by hardening of the arteries rather than by Buerger's. The latter is a disease of young men who smoke. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for leaflet on this disorder.

ABNORMAL BLOOD COUNT

W.B. writes: Is a person with a low blood count in danger of developing leukemia?

REPLY

No. I assume you mean anemia when referring to a low blood count. This is not a cause of leukemia, a condition in which there is an excessive number of white blood cells.

On the other hand, the two disorders may co-exist.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

There is always a reason for pain.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A supposedly true story from South of the border may have sounded the death knell for the latest fashion fad. Apparently a young singer told his new girl friend he loved her hair, so he took off her wig and gave it to him. — Hamilton Spectator.

For the first time this year there wasn't a single horse in the Carleton County plowing match. But there were more horses than ever at the Ottawa Winter Fair. The workhorse has become a horse of another color. — Ottawa Journal.

Our Gain Is Our Shame

Globe and Mail, Toronto

Many Canadians hearing that Ottawa has cut Colombo Plan aid by $8.5 million as part of the nation's austerity measures will hang their heads in shame. The Government decided to reduce its surplus wheat shipments to India, Pakistan and other Asian countries, and in this way chopped the aid figure to Southeast Asia from $50 million to $41.5 million.

In a land where most of us have more than enough to eat, surely the last place where Government spending should have been trimmed is surplus food gifts to the world's hungry nations.

As it is, Canada's foreign aid contributions are inadequate. Each year we have been spending, as a nation, in the vicinity of $60 million in foreign aid, or only about $3.30 per person. This represents well under one cent in aid each day on a per capita basis — in a country where a single cent has become almost valueless.

What is particularly distasteful about the Colombo Plan austerity measures is that Canada has talked much about the importance of feeding the hungry. Our Cabinet Ministers and politicians have spoken to the United Nations and to other world bodies of the need to share surplus food with the needy on a global basis.

Canada was one of the initiators of the World Food Bank, where the 27 member countries have pledged $86 million in surplus grain and other foods, shipping and a variety of commodities and services. Presumably the $8.5 million cut will make it that much easier for Ottawa to fulfill its commitments to this new experimental food-sharing project.

And certainly some of the wheat originally intended as gifts to India, Pakistan and similar countries will now be sold—either to the same countries or to Communist nations such as Poland and China with whom Canada has established a regular trade in food grains.

Will It End Soon?

Guelph Mercury

We are told that a combination of political setbacks and ill-health have been dogging Mr. Khrushchev, and the word is being passed that his reign is ending.

He is 68 years of age — the same age as Macmillan, three years younger than De Gaulle, and 18 years junior to Adenauer. But there are signs that although his influence in world affairs drowns the combined voice of these other European leaders, his grip upon his political throne may be less assured than any of them. It is said that the gruelling strain of the past nine years may be starting to affect his political shrewdness and personal health.

MANY CHANGES

In the past Khrushchev wiggled out of the purges and disasters of Russian hurly-burly politics with the dexterity of an eel, but some now insist he is enmeshed and strait-jacketed by problems which are driving away his political stamina. The serious ideological war with China for leadership of the Communist world — his lack of success in winning Asian Communists to his side. Rises of 30 per cent and 25 per cent in the prices of meat and butter. The failure of farmers to meet their allotted targets. The seething discontent of Soviet intellectuals.

In the beginning Khrushchev was a roistering trade who could have drunk a camel under the bar table. He would stand, glass in hand, and jet with diplomats and newspapermen, and shower them in a confetti of proverbs and quotations from the Bible, Marx and Tolstoy.

Today, his doctors are giving him injections of novacain, a Rumanian process to stave off old age and save his vigor. He has almost given up his drinking. He is warned of standing long hours at party rallies and parades this ill-health is somewhat of a mystery, but it is evident and he must be looked after.

RIVALS IN THE WINGS

Rivals are lurking in the wings, eyeing Russia's No. 1 position anxiously. Eleven known successors headed by Frol Kozlov, Mr. Khrushchev's own nominee, are there. But in Russia, favorites seldom succeed. Lenin suggested Trotsky to succeed him, and Stalin had him murdered, and then ruled.

He, in turn, suggested Maienkov as his successor, but the agile Mr. Khrushchev brushed him aside and mounted the throne himself, as Premier and First-Secretary of the Communist Party. He holds two jobs. He could shed one, and much lighten the burden of office. Perhaps he will. We must wait and see just what is going to happen.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(October 29, 1937)

Chief of Police A. Birtwistle issued a warning to those planning to take part in Hallowe'en celebrations over the weekend. The police patrol have orders to curb the "destructive witches" by arresting them on sight. Students of Prince of Wales would refrain from their customary "Hallowe'en serenade" this year out of respect to their late Principal, the late Dr. S.N. Robertson.

Dr. Wendell Macdonald left Thursday for Edinburgh to take a post graduate course, before proceeding to Vienna, Austria, to complete his medical course.

TEN YEARS AGO
(October 29, 1952)

"Refitting For The Races" is the title of a painting recently completed by Robert Rogers, Alberton-born artist. Mr. Rogers was commissioned by the Canadian Club of New York City to paint for them a typical Island scene. This painting will be forwarded to New York where it will hang in the quarters occupied by the Canadian Club in the Waldorf Astoria.

Ken Green of Albany, P.E.I. and Halifax, N.S., arrived on Prince Edward Island Saturday night from England, where he represented one-half million members in the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, at the British Union Congress convention in Margate, England.

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