The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest link"

That 1961 Surplus

Prior to tabling the Public Accounts in the Legislature the Provincial Treasurer, Mr. McQuaid, announced that for the Government's first fiscal year of office, ending March 31, 1961, there was a surplus on ordinary and capital account of $28,061. The surplus budgeted for, he explained, had been only $4,557. The surplus actually realized was satisfactory indeed, indicating the extent to which controllable expenditures had been curtailed.

For this year the forecast was for a surplus of $90,665, and on the same basis we may hope that an even more satisfactory showing will be achieved. In any case, the Government's pledge to balance the budget will have been implemented, and this will make the job of future financing so much the easier. It is an achievement to be proud of.

There is, however, a matter connected with Mr. McQuaid's announcement that leaves us puzzled. While it is true that in 1960 he had forecast, for 1961, a surplus of $4,557, it would appear that at the last regular session, in making his budget speech, he upped this figure to a much higher level than he did on Tuesday last. Here are his words, as of March 7, 1961:

"You will remember that when, at the last session of this Legislature, I presented our budget for the year ending March 31, 1961, I forecast a surplus on ordinary and capital account of $4,557. We are now able to report a balanced budget and a surplus, not of $4,557 as anticipated but rather of $70,591."

Somehow, between March 7 and March 31, 1961, when the fiscal year ended, this reported surplus of $70,591 failed to materialize. $42,530 of it got lost in the shuffle, if we are to assume that $28,061 is the correct figure. This is still, we repeat, a very good surplus; but like the little boy who was promised a space man's suit for Christmas and got only a baseball outfit, we feel somehow let down. There may, of course, be a good explanation for this discrepancy between Mr. McQuaid's report on the 1961 surplus last session and his announcement last Tuesday evening; in which case, we suggest, the sooner it is given the better.

Prison Reform Prospects

The outline of the Government's plans to establish a prison farm in this Province, as given in the Legislature by Attorney General McQuaid, was most encouraging and reassuring. The plans are "long-range" ones, and undoubtedly will take time to bring to fruition. But it is important that a start be made on them as soon as possible, and this, we gather, is the Government's intention. They are in line with the recommendations submitted last year by the Island division of the Canadian Mental Health Association, to which frequent reference has been made in these columns.

Eventually, as Mr. McQuaid pointed out, the present county jails will be used only as lockups for overnight custody and for the custody of prisoners awaiting trial. The prison farm will be designed to provide some measure of segregation, with occupational training provided for those who are amenable to it. There will be compulsory employment on the farm for all prisoners able to work, and those mentally ill—including alcoholics—will receive treatment. The staff will be specially trained, and will include at least one phychiatrist and social worker.

Mr. McQuaid looked forward to changes contemplated in the Federal Penitentiary Act under which agreements could be entered into for penitentiary confinement of prisoners who have been sentenced to a term of more than one year, thus relieving the province of the obligation of providing accomodation for these prisoners.

Meanwhile an attempt will be made to improve present jail conditions, which have been the subject of much criticism. The Attorney General put the case bluntly when he said that they are not equipped to provide any type of training and that even as custodial institutions they are anything but a credit to the province. They constitute, not a new problem but one upon which grand juries have had occasion to comment adversely for years. Whatever remedial measures can be instituted here, will necessarily be of a stopgap nature until the prison reform plans materialize. But something can be done to make these old buildings at least more habitable, and the sooner this is done the better.

A Major Challenge

According to President Kennedy, unemployment is "the major domestic challenge of the sixties", and there is no doubt that his statement applies to Canada as well as to the United States. This despite the business upswing noticeable recently in both countries.

In the next ten years, Mr. Kennedy estimates, the United States must find 25,000 new jobs every week to employ its increasing labor force. Some of his experts think he has underestimated the problem, that the weekly increase in jobs must average 35,000. In any case the figure is breath-taking. It results from two main factors—a rapid rise in population and the impact of machines that take the place of men in industry.

Canada's parallel problem, says the Winnipeg Free Press, may not have been mapped in such detail but obviously it is at least as formidable as that of the United States. It quotes Dr. John Deutsch, the distinguished economist of Queen's University and adviser to last year's Senate committee on unemployment, as estimating that Canada must create a million new jobs during the next four years if it is to achieve full employment. That is roughly 5,000 jobs a week.

Since the American economy is about 14 times the size of the Canadian and needs some 25,000 or 35,000 additional jobs weekly, it will be seen that Canada's employment needs are proportionately about twice as high as those of its neighbor. Even if Dr. Deutsch's calculations are on the large side, it is still true that under the best of conditions Canada faces a titanic task.

Politicians who make easy promises in this connection should be required to show how they propose to meet the challenge. Dr. Deutsch does not believe that it can be done by the kind of cyclical business recovery under way. To argue that the current rise in employment must soon put all Canadians at work overlooks the growth in our labor force and the growing effects of automation. Clearly we are dealing here not with some passing difficulty but with a profound change in the whole nature of a modern industrial economy.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prime Minister Menzies recently opened a building described as the tallest in Australia. Its height is 384 feet. Montreal, notes an exchange, remains secure as far as Commonwealth altitudes are concerned, for it has two new buildings each in the neighborhood of 600 feet and each of which claims vehemently to be the tallest of all.

* * *

In an age when the world seems to deeply and bitterly divided, there is something reassuring when nations combine to share their mercy and knowledge. At Moscow's invitation, Dr. Wilder G. Penfield flew from Canada to join in a consultation on the case of a famed Russian scientist who had suffered serious brain injuries in a motor accident. Special drugs to aid the victim were sent from Great Britain and from France. No one can be certain as to what the outcome in this case may be, but it does serve to show what co-operation on a much wider scale could mean.

THE MOSCOW WEATHERMAN

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

M. P. Reviews Problem Of Alcoholism

Every Canadian worker labours for three weeks in each year to pay the national cost of alcoholic indulgence. Alcoholism is a high price national luxury costing us about 6 per cent of our Gross National Product, and affecting one in every thirty adult Canadians.

These are some of the conclusions which can be reached from a study of a speech in which Dr. P.B. Rynard, Conservative M.P. from Orillia, recently surveyed the human balance sheet and the multi-billion dollar cost of this mounting problem. His speech might well be entitled with his dramatic words: "What a thirst! What a cost!".

It was of course the excesses which Dr. Rynard reviewed.

Alcoholism is a self-inflicted disease, he said. It ranks fifth among causes of death of adult Canadians, being exceeded by heart disease, cancer, strokes and accidents. He pointed out that alcoholism is a problem older than detailed history, for the magnificent old Chinese civilisation degenerated through its ravages until by the year 1100 B.C. that country had become a nation of paupers ruled by a powerful class of pampered Lords.

Dr. Rynard listed the common effects of alcoholism as broken homes, illegitimacy and disease, criminal offences, traffic accidents, illness and death, absenteeism, and our "hidden army of half-men" who can work at only 50 per cent of their normal capacity.

The immense amount of thought and research which went into Dr. Rynard's presentation produced the staggering conclusion that the cost of alcoholism to Canada is in excess of $2,500,000,000 each year. The economic benefits from the bottle total a mere one quarter of that figure, consisting of $131,833,000 paid in wages for the manufacture and sale of liquor; $51,480,000 paid for the ingredients of alcoholic manufactures; and a gigantic yield of $457,000,000 in taxes to various levels of government.

These are some of the national expenses caused by alcohol, in the assessment of Dr. Rynard:

In Ontario during 1960, alcohol played a role in 9 out of every 10 cases of actual or attempted murder, manslaughter and rape. 40,436 offences resulting from the use of liquor were charged, resulting in convictions. There were also 38,400 convictions for violations of the Liquor Control Act. Court costs, legal fees and the expenses of imprisonment in such cases, extended to a cross-Canada level, amount to tens of millions of dollars.

One half of all road accidents are estimated to be caused by drivers who have been drinking. Alcohol, said Dr. Rynard, is thus involved in traffic accidents costing $145,000,000 and killing about 2,500 Canadians each year. To that cost must be added the lost earning power of the slaughtered citizens.

2,543 new alcoholics and 2,545 repeaters were admitted to hospitals in Canada, for an average stay of 36 days in hospitals or public institutions. Adding those cared for in special or private institutions brings the bill up to $4 million a year.

A very large cost is the loss of productivity by workers who are semi-incapacitated mentally or manually by alcohol, that "hidden army of half-men" which has its fifth column in every factory and office.

Finally, there is the large expense generally born by the community for social welfare work, helping the children and the wives or even husbands who are the victims of an alcoholic.

Dr. Rynard's thought-provoking speech pointed out these often overlooked by-products of uncontrolled use of the bottle. And by inference as well as directly he gave support to the work to be done by the proposed Canadian Alcoholic Council.

Seeking A Compromise

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Seeking the road of compromise, Britain is gently prodding the United States towards the summit in a series of subtle moves that leaves the U.S. no alternative but to agree or risk the appearance of an Anglo-American split on points of minor issue.

The sum of these moves, together with Premier Khrushchev's agreement to send Foreign Minister Gromyko to the Geneva opening of 17-country disarmament negotiations, is that an East-West summit is almost certain to take place, perhaps in May, even if little progress is made in disarmament talks.

President Kennedy has long maintained there should be no summit meeting unless there is indication of success through progress in the diplomatic valley. Gradually, he modified his view in recent months, to the point where he expressed willingness to attend a summit meeting before June if this would prove "useful," or if a nuclear test-ban treaty could be made ready for signature, or if world leaders could resolve "explicit points of disagreement."

In each step, Prime Minister Macmillan expressed the approach in different words, and it soon was obvious to American authorities Macmillan each time went a little further than Kennedy.

AMERICANS LED

Some American authorities were privately irritated with what one American commentator described as "once again British leading an American president toward a new summit." But they said nothing.

The one outburst came when London dispatches, which appeared inspired by the British government, suggested a test-ban agreement could be concluded with reduced need for inspection and control in Russia because of new scientific improvements in detection. U.S. disarmament chief William Foster immediately denied this, maintaining more—not less—inspection would be required.

British officials hurriedly retreated a bit by agreeing some increase in detection might be necessary until a world-wide system of control posts is established, but this increase would be temporary.

The Anglo-American agreements are reported still at logger-heads on how to handle the American view that inspection must also cover the possibility Russia might be secretly preparing another series of nuclear tests.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Sir,—After talking before witnesses to one of your reporters who was present at the Council meeting of March 3rd I can not accept your assertion that they did not hear the Mayor instruct them not to discuss any of the discussion of that meeting.

I do, however, accept your verdict that my charge that the Mayor has not kept his election promise is no longer of news value. The fact is already too well known, particularly by those low incomed people who believed that promise.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ALLISON GILLIS
Councillor for Ward 5.

MR. GREEN'S VISIT

Sir, — Regarding the letter in your Public Forum column in today's (Wednesday's) edition signed "Puzzled," I am unable to comment on his opinions of the television performance by the Hon. David Walker; however, I would like to correct him regarding the recent visit of the Hon. Howard Green. "Puzzled" states that there were 200 people present at the meeting addressed by Mr. Green. Probably he received this impression from the account of Mr. Green's visit which did state that 200 were present; however, The Guardian account did not state what meeting 200 people attended. There were 300 people present at the afternoon business session of the Queen's County P. C. Association. Mr. Green was not at this meeting. This is a very good attendance for a district business session, usually attended by delegates only.

At the evening session addressed by the Hon. Howard Green there were 700 to 800 in attendance. This is only a guess, however; the crowd at the Community Centre was a standing room only crowd.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ONE WHO WAS THERE

Parental Anxiety Causes Neurosis In Offspring

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

"MY 5 year old has been running a temperature of 100 degrees night and morning since July. The doctor has done all kinds of blood and urine tests but nothing shows up. The boy eats and sleeps well but becomes irritable if he can't have his own way. Since he is an only child, I would like your help on this problem."

There is no need for concern if you have faith in your physician and he is convinced nothing is wrong. If not, suggest a consultation. This may be your son's normal temperature.

The best way to obtain accurate reading is to take the temperature rectally after the boy has rested and before meals. A rest is needed because activity raises the reading and so does the digestion of food. In this way you can settle the problem once and for all because too much temperature taking and too many visits to the physician are not good for the emotional development of a child.

The parents' anxiety rubs off and the youngster ends up as a first class neurotic. It is a form of overprotection which, if continued, encourages feelings of inadequacy and insecurity in children. They are forced to hang on to their mother's apron strings because they don't know how to stand on their own feet. In addition, aggressiveness and independence are discouraged.

There is a good possibility that your boy's irritability occurs because he resents being babied. He must feel fine; otherwise he would not eat and sleep well. Furthermore, sick children are not active and often lose weight.

Time is with the lad because an ailment lasting seven months in a five year old could not be too serious. Before that time leukemia, kidney tumor, hidden abscess and other serious ailments usually progress to such an extent the diagnosis is obvious. Your son's appearance, activity, growth pattern, and eating habits are better guides than the thermometer reading.

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

FEARFUL OF CANCER

C V. writes: I'm 25 years old and worry a lot about getting lung cancer. My doctor tells me I'm too young for a checkup and not to worry. But cancer must start sometime. What can be done to check this dreadful disease in time?

REPLY

Worry can be worse than the disease you fear. Find a physician who not only will reassure you about not having cancer but will help you to take a more mature attitude toward the disease. Meanwhile, an annual chest X-ray will be helpful.

MANIC DEPRESSIVE

L. L. writes: Can a manic depressive be cured by drugs or is shock treatment necessary?

REPLY

Many victims of this mental disease are helped with drugs but the answer depends upon the severity and duration of the condition.

GOOD BLOOD

M. G. writes: How can an optimum blood count and hemoglobin be maintained in a normal man?

REPLY

By remaining healthy and by eating a balanced diet containing meat.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Being poor has its advantages; the car keys are never in your other pants.— Niagara Falls Review.

The Communists are reported to be arguing among themselves but we must still await advice on whether they have decided to behave like free men in other ways.— Edmonton Journal.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO (March 8, 1937)

The congregation of Brookfield was much pleased with the address given in Brookfield Church last Sunday night by Mr. John Carson of Charlottetown, student of Prince of Wales College. Mr. Carson is contemplating entering the ministry.

A number of citizens had the privilege yesterday morning of seeing an interesting motion picture of Prince Edward Island taken by the Dominion Picture Bureau, last summer. The picture will eventually be shown throughout the continent, after being properly edited and "cut".

TEN YEARS AGO (March 8, 1952)

Approximately 125 young people attended a "Gay Nineties" party by Trinity YPU last evening. Prizes for costumes were awarded to Norma Lee Haslam and Shirley Bell. Recreation was directed by Blair Brown and Joyce Wigginton. A special number on the program was "The Barbershop Quartet" with Don and Wallace Wood, Barry Beers and Leith Thompson.

An office is at present being prepared in Fred White's store on Main Street for Dr. J.P. Kelly who recently arrived in Alberton to set up medical practice. Dr. and Mrs. Kelly and small child came to Canada about two months ago.

Some day space accidents will be carried under obituaries.— Montreal Star.

If you get a map, take a pin, shut your eyes and jab, more than likely a Kennedy will be on the spot you strike. — Memphis Commercial Appeal.

A doctor says human beings are becoming bigger, and by the year 2000 the average male will have a 42-inch waist. It would appear that some of us are not stout but merely ahead of our times.— Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Standardization of sizes of children's clothing will have some advantages. Once fixed, a mother will know which number to ask for with a reasonable certainty that it will be two sizes too large when purchased, and only a size or two too small when it is discarded because of wear.— Victoria Times.

Arrested in Newcastle - on - Tyne, England, on a charge of shoplifting, a woman said to be a lecturer on kleptomania told the court that the reason she had taken $7 worth of merchandise from two stores was for the purpose of illustrating to her audience how easy it was to shoplift.— Hamilton Spectator.

There is much validity in the Western contention that there should be summit meetings only if prior negotiations at a lower level had given a reasonable assurance of success. Further, there is always the danger at a summit conference—and this has happened on previous occasions — that participants freeze themselves into rigid positions, making later give and take difficult. Madras Exchange.

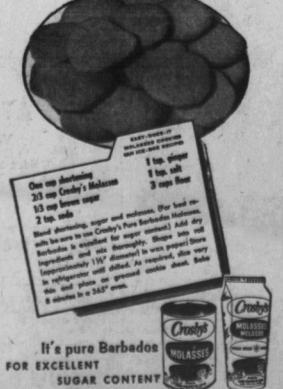
The Age Old Story

The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

"easy-does-it"

MOLASSES GINGER COOKIES

THIS IS AN ICE BOX RECIPE !



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