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 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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 "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1955

"This Star..."

Back in 1905 Sir Wilfrid Laurier, speaking in the House of Commons, had this to say: "The 19th century has been a century that has been remarkable for the marvelous development of the United States. During the whole period of that cycle of time the United States has been the great centre of attraction for all the world. But a new star has arisen upon the horizon, a star not in the orbit of the American constellation, but a star standing by itself resplendent in the Western sky, and it is toward this star that every immigrant, every traveler, every man who leaves the land of his ancestors to seek a home for himself, now turns his gaze."

The Prime Minister had good cause for his optimistic outlook. At that very moment the flood of Americans flocking into the newly created province of Alberta and Saskatchewan was so great that Sir Wilfrid's political opponents were charging him with plotting to make the Canadian West an American dependency, while in Eastern Canada some newspapers were saying that annexation was only a matter of time. Of the 15,000 residents of Calgary, 13,000 were Americans. Winnipeg was popularly known as an American city, and with good reason, for more than 90% of its business establishments were controlled by Americans. The immigrants came from Illinois, Iowa, Idaho, and the Dakotas; they came by passenger trains, freight cars, and prairie schooners. They brought with them American machinery, American ideas, and, in many cases, American capital; all in response to a Canadian Government invitation to "take them (free acres), run the plough through them this year and garner 40 bushels of golden wheat to the acre next year." The day of free land in the American West had gone; in the new provinces it had just begun.

Many of these immigrants had done well out of the 160 free acres the United States Government had given them a few years before; now they had sold them at a good price and come to Canada to repeat their good fortune. In the main, however, they were young and middle-aged farmers determined to escape from the tenant farming system which already has spread over their home States. In Canada they would find a new life, a new chance to achieve prosperity and independence. Now, fifty years later, there is no great influx of American farmers into the Canadian West, there being no large tracts of free and rich land to entice them, and the annexation scare has long since subsided. Today, the American "immigration" is in capital to help develop mines, oil wells, and all the other facets of a growing industrial economy. Perhaps Sir Wilfrid's prophecy has not been fulfilled in every particular; but certainly Canada's economic growth has been one of the startling developments of the first half of the 20th century; so much so that an American financial expert said only the other day that "the Canadian dollar is now the strongest currency in the world." There is every hope that, with unity among ourselves, and with good relations with our Southern neighbour—relations that call for some give and take on both sides—the second half of the century will bring even brighter illumination to "this star, standing by itself, resplendent in the Western sky."

New Zealand Cheese

In his statement to the Commons on the Import of 2,250,000 pounds of New Zealand cheese into Canada, notes the Ottawa Journal, Trade Minister Howe was somewhat less than frank. In fact most persons who read or who heard his explanation, and did not know all the facts, would get an entirely wrong impression of the transaction—might wonder why dairy farmers across Canada were up in arms over the deal and why 3,000 Ontario farm leaders meeting in Toronto recently protested so vigorously and threatened a mass march on Parliament Hill.

"As far as he went Mr. Howe stuck to the bald facts," says The Journal. "Trouble was he did not go far enough. There is no moral or legal ground for keeping New Zealand cheese out of this country; there is a duty on it when brought in and there was a verbal agreement in 1952 whereby New Zealand agreed not to send cheese to Canada owing to difficulties we were having re-establishing our cheese on the British market. But when Mr. Howe, apparently with Mr. Gardiner's blessing, said circumstances had changed and there appeared no good reason for our insisting

that the gentleman's agreement be continued, he was stretching the truth a little too far.

"The circumstances which made necessary the 1952 verbal agreement with New Zealand have changed little, if at all. We have 10 to 15 million pounds of surplus cheese in Canada today. Our market in the United Kingdom is nothing like it once was. Ontario producers themselves have had to subsidize sales to that market, in fact have raised a fund of more than \$1,000,000 to offer a more attractive price to British buyers. That fund, two cents on every pound of cheese made in Ontario, came out of the pockets of dairy farmers.

"Further, Ontario cheese producers are receiving assistance from both the Federal and Ontario governments in order to operate their marketing scheme and try to sell surplus cheese abroad. If cheaper New Zealand cheese is allowed unrestricted entry this money could well be wasted. Another point missed by Mr. Howe was that the duty on New Zealand cheese is only one cent a pound, about five per cent, hardly worth mentioning when costs in the two countries are compared.

"Actually this New Zealand cheese was no more needed in Canada than is snow at the North Pole. It only adds to surplus troubles here, disrupts the market and is an additional source of worry to dairy farmers who already have enough troubles. It may help some Canadian manufacturer to sell products to New Zealand, a dubious advantage if it also means less buying power for many thousand Canadian farmers."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The speedy passage of the new Unemployment Insurance Bill by both houses of Parliament shows what can be done when members of all parties are willing to forgo their right to indulge in tedious harangue, in favour of a piece of business that requireth haste.

Official quarters in New Delhi have stated that India is in favor of Red China releasing the 11 U. S. Air Force crewmen she has imprisoned as "spies", though they were captured, in uniform, while flying their U. N. missions in the Korean War. The Indians are careful to state, however, that they have not impressed this view on Peiping; that would be using pressure.

To help reduce the huge egg surplus—the largest in history—the United States Government plans to distribute 2 million pounds in dried form to the national school-lunch program. Meanwhile, every effort is being made to increase national consumption. "Besides being friendly to your budget, eggs are friendly to you," says a booklet issued by the Agriculture Department.

The coining of epithets is a recognized adjunct to South American political feuds. In the latest incident—latest as this is being written, that is—President Figueres of Costa Rica said of his next door neighbour, President Somoza of Nicaragua, that he is "crazier than a goat in the midsummer sun." A picturesque phrase, surely, but one hardly calculated to soothe bad tempers. It will be interesting—though probably not edifying—to hear what Somoza has to say in rebuttal.

That Colonial Governorship does not carry the authoritarian privileges it once had is shown in the recent recall by the French home Government of the Governor of St. Pierre et Miquelon, M. Irene Davier. Whether his fiscal policies were sound or unsound, they did not go down well with the residents who, after some dickering back and forth with French authorities, have persuaded the latter that "it's time for a change." The new Governor, M. Siscot, may or may not do any better; but, at least, he starts out with the good wishes of the colonists.

This date, 1912, Britain's Robert F. Scott and four companions reached the South Pole after a heroic 850-mile sledge journey, only to find the Norwegian flag there, planted five weeks before by Roald Amundsen. The entire party perished on the return journey. A search party later found Scott's tent, containing the bodies of the explorer and two associates, as well as his records and diaries. A memorial service was held in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Feb. 14, 1913, on which occasion an English journalist, Robert Machen, composed the following noble lines:

"Here a great multitude; there a great solitude.
 "Here the architecture and the magic of men expressed in stone; here the vast hollow of the dome, the choir and the singing voices, and the high altar with the cross.
 "There the terrible architecture of the Most High God; the peaks and pinnacles of eternal ice, the giant frozen walls, the mountain domes all white for ever that go up into the darkness of the long Polar night."



Mild Winter Martyrs

OTTAWA REPORT

Tariffs And Farm Products

By Patrick Nicholson

Are our farmers becoming protectionists? The agriculturalists, especially those on the Prairies, have traditionally been our most outspoken advocates of free trade and our most enthusiastic importers of imported goods. For, they have argued, it is only by admitting foreign products into our markets here that the manufacturers of those products will be able and willing to buy our farm surpluses which cannot be sold at home.

Increasingly during the post-Korean recession, our farmers have appeared to be losing this crusading free trade philosophy. And recently, since "New Zealand cheese" became fighting words, our cowboys have seemed to be as great protectionists as even our electrical appliance manufacturers.

To the intricate maze of trade restrictions experienced since the war, Canada has added yet another. Tariffs we are all familiar with. Other obstacles to the free flow of goods have been quotas, embargoes and currency restrictions. Another, not mentioned in the repertoire of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, has been Canada's "verbal agreement." The government has used this to keep out New Zealand butter. It has in the past used it to keep out New Zealand cheese. Our Trade Minister, Hon. C. D. Howe, explained here last week that the government sees no need to maintain this unofficial total embargo against New Zealand cheese any longer. So a token shipment, consisting of 2,250,000 lbs. of our sister Dominion's "cheap" cheese, is being admitted.

With a stockpile of unsold cheese in Canada already, there is a fear that the importation of foreign cheap cheese may undermine the Canadian market by a few cents per pound, and bring our domestic cheese tumbling in price.

New Zealand cheese is called cheap because it sells for a little less than the domestic product. In practice, it may not be so cheap.

Britain is buying it for 22½ cents per pound loaded on ship in New Zealand ports. To that price must be added shipping to Canadian seaboard, say 2 cents per lb.; Canadian tariff, 1 cent per lb.; freight to inland Canadian market, 1½ cents. And we have a price of 27 cents per lb.

Canadian cheese could be sold at the same inland market for about 30 cents per pound. The Canadian cheese has better flavour, it is better cheese because it is not made from pasteurized milk as the New Zealand cheese is, and it does not contain the same high amount of moisture which is estimated to devalue the New Zealand cheese by one or two cents per pound.

Farm experts here point out that the New Zealand dairy farmer has a great advantage over his Canadian competitor in his climate. He does not have to stable his cattle during a long, snow-blanketed winter, and he does not have to feed them in barns all winter. His mild open winter cuts his operating costs very appreciably.

At the same time, the Canadian farmer is how faced with progressively less skilled farm help and higher wages.

So the Canadian farmer is following the line accepted now in nearly every western agricultural country. That is that sufficiently

strict import curbs must be imposed to protect country's own agricultural price support program. This is the farmers' answer to the industrialists' demands for tariff protection; demands which the farmers are sick and tired of hearing, and sick and tired of being victimized by, through unnecessarily higher costs for many things they have to buy.

The industrialists use tariff protection to enable them to earn very lavish profits say farm officials here. But the farmers ask for quota protection only to save them from disaster, not to enable them to earn artificial profits on their food products.

Thus our farmers are newly becoming protectionists, not from greed, say these officials, but strictly from hunger.

The Poet's Corner

CHIPMUNK

A bird must fly a meadow's length to carry foodstuff in its bill, the tiny parcel, to its tree, the countless times, the countless miles.

The doe in woodland, mare in field, the small sheep grazing on the hill must search the endless hours, take the richness—sleep and search again when they wake.

For her good reason nature gave the chipmunk, his rich double bill: the clever way, if not the best, he stores in pouches of his cheeks the food he gathers; face-full, goes back to his nest.

—Joseph Joel Keith in The Christian Science Monitor.

Uranium For Tomorrow

Winnipeg Free Press

As the atomic age matures and the energy released in splitting the atom is applied to the production of electricity, the question that becomes increasingly important is: where will the raw uranium come from to meet this growing demand for atomic energy? The other day, Dr. John Convey, head of the mines branch of the department of mines and technical surveys, said that "Canada is now the second largest uranium producer in the world, second only to the Belgian Congo."

This confirms a statement made a few weeks ago by Mr. Rafford L. Faulkner, assistant director for foreign procurement of the United States Atomic Energy Commission. In a speech delivered in New York, during which he reviewed the supply picture for uranium as it affects the free world, Mr. Faulkner said that Canadian governmental activities and widespread participation by private enterprise in developing new resources of supply were enabling Canada to make "a firm bid for first place in world uranium production."

Because he was dealing only with the foreign supply situation, Mr. Faulkner did not deal with uranium production on the North American continent. It is known, however, that the United States is the third largest producer of uranium ore in the world, and that much of the U. S. raw uranium is mined in the Colorado Plateau area. In Canada, two government mines and one privately-operated mine are producing at present. They are the Eldorado mines on Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories and at Beaver lodge in northern Saskatchewan, and the Rix-Atabasca mine, also at Beaverlodge. It is expected that by the end of the year another half dozen mines in Saskatchewan and Ontario may be in production.

Sources—other than the United States and Canada—of raw uranium on which the free world may draw in the future, as outlined by Mr. Faulkner, are:

Belgian Congo: Since the start of its operations in 1922, the Shinkolobwe mine, operated by the Union Miniere du Haut-Katanga has been the world's most important producer of radium and uranium. It has been the mainstay of the free world's atomic energy pro-

gram. Although a large amount of uranium ore has been mined from the surface in an open pit, it is now being extracted entirely from underground workings. Facilities have recently been completed to process lower grades of ore and an extensive exploration and mine development program has been undertaken.

South Africa: In 1923, uraninite was identified in the Witwatersrand gold ores. In 1945 a survey was made to determine whether uranium could be economically recovered from these ores. In 1950 pilot plants were built. Combined research efforts developed a uranium recovery process which is technically and economically sound. It begins where normal gold recovery operations leave off. The ore, which has been treated to remove the gold, is pumped to the uranium plant where the uranium is dissolved from the rock with weak sulphuric acid. Production started in 1952 and there are now six plants in production with a number of others nearly finished.

Australia: Two productive enterprises are under way. One is at Radium Hill in South Australia, where production will begin early this year. The second and more recent discovery is at Rum Jungle in the Northern Territory, which began its initial operations last fall and which will be producing uranium shortly.

Portugal: A large number of uranium occurrences are known in Portugal and uranium deposits have been worked for many decades. The most important of these is the Urguiera mine which is operated by a British-owned company.

Prospecting is being carried on in a number of European and Latin American countries, mostly under governmental control. A large number of uranium occurrences have been reported and it is expected that some of these will provide uranium at competitive cost. As private enterprise is allowed to participate in the search for uranium in these countries, spectacular results can be anticipated.

Reviewing the whole situation, Mr. Faulkner concluded that adequate amounts of uranium will be available in the future to supply the needs of a nuclear power industry.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The faults of others are like headlights on an automobile. They only seem more glaring than your own. —Guelph Mercury.

A long hatpin which in days past was a necessity for the ladies, is again suggested, but this time as a means of defence. The passing of the hatpin was disarming and with numerous attacks being made on women it is suggested that it be revived. A strong jab of a hatpin would halt most attackers in their steps and undoubtedly cause them to flee. —St. Catherine's Standard.

We believe that in amending the election acts, both provincial and federal, consideration should be given to patients in hospitals. Indeed, one might go further and advocate that the British system of allowing people bedridden or invalids in their homes be allowed to vote by mail, a system applied very simply in Britain. These suggestions are commended to the attention of our legislators who deal with such matters. —Oshawa Times & Gazette.

The golfer tramps eight and a half miles while playing eighteen holes, and must cover some hundreds of miles during the golfing season. However he does it for fun and likes it. The stenographer may like nothing better than sitting in a well-padded swivel chair, but even she puts in about 43 miles per week at her work and in most cases on high heels. This would total about 2,000 miles for a full year. It is the average housewife however, who probably heads the list. Just in her own home, she logs an estimated 3,000 miles per year, and her mileage outside the house must make a very substantial addition. —Edmonton Journal.

The case for a Canadian coast guard on the Great Lakes has been placed before Parliament by Wallace Nesbitt, PC member for Oxford. He listed a number of tragedies, noted a lack of storm signals, and suggested use of fishing tugs, many of which are equipped with radio, to protect small craft during summer months. The deplorable lack of a lifesaving organization on the lakes has been discussed in these columns many times, and in the press of Great Lakes and Pacific ports. The Government last May turned down a ROAF proposal that agencies cooperate. Even that is not true of many areas, and it can scarcely be doubted that a trained force would be more successful than a semi-official and voluntary rescue service. —Toronto Telegram.

If anyone reading this lacks a hangover headache this week-end, we suggest a way out. Let him read the interminable statistics which make up the 87th annual report on Ontario Mental Hospitals. It is put out by the Ontario Government, and other copy at any rate cost nothing. But while making (fun of mental illness would be the last thing to enter our mind, this government blue book makes us wonder if compiling statistics is a form of occupational therapy for the lunatic. Certainly there is page after page in this report containing data which can be of no conceivable interest to anyone except a rival statistician. Every conceivable permutation and combination of facts relating to the mentally ill—age, illness, race, diagnosis, prognosis, re-admission—

is gone into. We have read such concentrated statistics with such little comment. However out of the mass of figures some of interest do emerge if one is patient enough to dig them out. In 1953, the year the report deals with, one in every 258 citizens of Ontario was a patient in a mental hospital, and the total for the province was 18,957 as compared with 18,393 in 1952. That seems to prove we are a less sane lot than we were. Life in these times certainly does not become more simple. —Galt Reporter.

The soaring price of tea is reported to have become a political "hot potato" as well it might. Since October, 1952, when tea came off the ration list, this national beverage has risen almost 100 per cent, and is now at the unheard-of price of seven shillings a pound. There have been five price increases this year. Such a surge in the cost of a "cup o' char" is definitely a major problem especially as the profits of the British tea companies have risen phenomenally in the past year. If the Government cannot cut the price of tea it may discover that this is more than a tempest in a teapot. —London Free Press.

Honor To Mr. Rodd

(Ottawa Journal)
 Sometimes one has to leave town to hear what has happened to one's neighbors.
 In Montreal the other day one of our editors encountered a man who said what a nice thing it was that Mr. J. A. Rodd had been made an honorary life member of the Atlantic Salmon Association; the leading salmon fishing and control association of the Atlantic.
 On investigating we find it indeed true, but "Jim" Rodd had of course not told his Ottawa friends. The award was made at the association's last annual meeting for his distinguished work during a long career in developing and exploiting Canada's wealth from the waters.
 Mr. Rodd born in Prince Edward Island was with the Fisheries Department from 1901 until he retired in 1947 as Director of Fish Culture. The association has only four honorary life members, two of whom are eminent fish authorities of England and Scotland.
 Ottawa, knowing Mr. Rodd well, will congratulate the Atlantic Salmon Association on its esteem.

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 There will be a reception and dinner at the Charlottetown Hotel commencing at 6 P.M.
 All of our businessmen and our business women are cordially invited and urged to attend.
 Tickets are \$2.00 and can be had from the Centennial General Manager, 111 Grafton St.
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The Age Old Story
 Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near... For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
CAPITAL INCREASE
 OTTAWA, (CP)—Ottawa's population rose to 211,419 last year. The increase of 5,851 over the 1953 total was the largest for a single year in Ottawa's history.

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