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

Some Afterthoughts

Prime Minister Pearson has stressed that Canada's acceptance of nuclear warheads will not inhibit Canadian efforts for international disarmament, as the weapons will remain in United States control. What is hard to understand, however, is why the pact's details in relation to Canada's role cannot be made public.

As the Ottawa Journal points out, this nuclear weapons issue has been at the heart of domestic political conflict in Canada for several years. It is absurd to pretend that with the announcement of this decision the matter will now be accepted as finished business.

Very real and legitimate curiosity attends the nice legal and tactical point of how we may have the weapons and yet not have them. A more forthright announcement on this part of the arrangement would hardly enhance Russia's knowledge of this continent's war posture.

Another thing that puzzles us is the unqualified satisfaction Mr. Pearson has expressed about this agreement. We were under the impression, during the election campaign, that he disapproved of it—that it was merely to honor a Conservative commitment that he pledged his party to signing it, and that after it was signed he hoped to reopen the subject at Washington and negotiate a new and different agreement. He seems now to be content with finding a nuclear role for our armed forces, and letting the future take care of itself.

Once brought into Canada, will these warheads stay here as a monument to his regime, or will the real achievement of Mr. Pearson's government consist in taking them out under another agreement mutually satisfying to both countries? That was what we thought he was aiming at, but he hasn't said a word about this since the votes were in.

Perhaps we've been reading the wrong texts of Mr. Pearson's campaign pledges. He revised them more than once, and it may be that we missed the final version. Perhaps when Parliament resumes he will go over this whole nuclear weapons matter again, slowly and carefully, so that even the most backward of us can get an understanding of what his policy really is.

Friendly Visitations

The current issue of Soviet Union Today, published by the USSR Embassy at Ottawa, devotes a feature article to the friendly cooperation between Soviet and Canadian scientists and engineers, effected in the form of exchange of delegations of experts, of scientific discussions and contacts over the past few years. It is a story well worth telling, for it is another indication that the Russians are coming out of their hibernation and becoming more and more interested in what is going on in the world at large.

Beginning from 1958, says the Soviet publication, the exchange of technical delegations between the Soviet Union and Canada has become "a good tradition." Canadian scientists, engineers and businessmen are now frequent guests of Soviet industrial enterprise and research institutes, and during the same five year period 105 Soviet industry officials and technical experts representing various research institutes and industrial enterprises came to Canada.

Tribute has been paid by these visitors, says the article, to the hospitality of their Canadian hosts, and the prospects for further cooperation along this line are "steadily improving." This year the two countries will exchange delegations of railway transport, chemical, building and agricultural experts.

It is noted that the Soviet Union has signed agreements on scientific and technical contacts with Britain, the United States, Federal Germany, France, Italy and Finland, and hope is expressed that Soviet-Canadian cooperation will also develop in this way.

Premier Khrushchev has said that "the essence of the policy of peaceful coexistence lies in that countries with different social systems seek and find such ways of cooperation which will bring benefit to them." There is no reason to dispute the merit of this statement simply because we are at variance with other views he may held.

A Long, Long Time

How old is farming? Scholars and scientists from four countries have organized a year-long international expedition to find an answer to this intriguing question. They will work in Southeastern Turkey, the headquarters region of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers where, according to tradition, man first sowed and reaped. It will be a journey into the prehistoric past.

Two years of negotiation with the Turkish government preceded the permission to work in an area never before systematically explored for traces of food-producing evolution. Heading the expedition is a noted anthropologist, Dr. Ribert J. Braidwood, of the University of Chicago Oriental Institute, who discovered in 1948 what is believed to be the first known village—Jarmo—on the border of what is now Iran and Iraq, 250 miles southeast of the site of the new venture.

Scientists in the party will also study plant and animal remains and their modern counterparts, and will try to reconstruct climate through pollen analysis and biological study of fresh water. It is expected that the analysis of food and human remains and the outline of ancient settlements will throw light on diseases that existed in that dim period when farming first began.

How long ago was that? Well, Jarmo—above mentioned—goes back to 6800 B.C., and there was found evidence of animal domestication and crop cultivation in that ancient village. Now the hope is that the evidence of the dawn of agriculture can be dated as long as 12,000 years ago.

One Born Every Minute

The Time of London reports that another American has just bought the Colosseum in Rome, or at least taken a lien on it. This statement may require some explanation. But anyone acquainted with the stories about suckers buying the Brooklyn bridge from smart confidence men will get the drift of what the item is about.

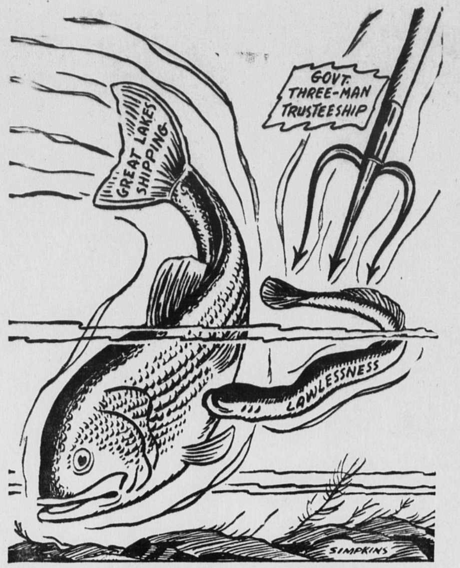
According to The Times, the Italians told this American visitor that the Colosseum was a fine place for business. Tourists visit it constantly and he could put a restaurant on the top floor with a view of the ancient Roman Forum. The sucker put up $330 as a deposit and was to meet the Italians at a hotel to close the dead. But they didn't show up.

No one is sure how many times the Colosseum has been "sold" over the years. But it is a matter of record that a sergeant in the U.S. 5th army bought it back in 1944. He fell for a fast talking Italian's story that while it was a pretty badly damaged building, it was on a fine location and would prove valuable when Rome got back to normal after the war.

As the old Romans used to say: "Caveat emptor!"

EDITORIAL NOTES

Some shocking facts on farm accidents are reported in an illustrated booklet, "Safety on the Farm," which has just been published by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. The booklet illustrates the "when, where and how" of farm accidents and is a real contribution to a subject which has been treated many times before, but never too frequently considering the manner in which farm accidents repeat themselves.



ANOTHER FORM OF LAMPHREY

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Highway Standards Badly Neglected

Canada's prospering tourist trade is being jeopardized by petty bickering and by lack of collaboration between our various levels of excessive government.

Ottawa is enjoying a record tourist year, with the capital's 3,500 hotel, motel and tourist home beds filled near capacity each night, while 10,000 tourists swarm through the city daily, pouring well over $1,000,000 through the cash registers every week.

The twin favourite attractions here are of course the colourful ceremony of "changing the guard" on the astonishingly verdant parade ground that is the lawn in front of the Parliament Building, and the interesting guided tour of this building.

Many of the visitors are from U.S.A., and the majority of these are following Canada's most-beaten tourist trail, circling through Toronto and or Kingston's Fort Henry and —or Cornwall's Upper Canada Village, then to Ottawa, and finally through Montreal often with an extension through Quebec City. They come in heavily laden station wagons, in packed little European cars, and predominantly in North American sedans. Many come in chartered buses, many bring their own motels in the form of trailer caravans running up to gargantuan lengths and breadths.

FROM POTHOLE TO BEND

On at least one of their journeys, these welcome dollar-spending tourists drive along some crude early Canadian cart track which is a disgrace to us and a danger to them.

If they come from the south, along the 60-mile route from the nearest border-crossing point at Prescott direct to Canada's capital, they wind along a road designed for horses travelling at eight miles per hour, and leave part of their car's springiness in each crater-like pothole.

If they come from Montreal, they drive for 20 miles along a 4-lane divided highway which is well-designed and smooth-surfaced. Then suddenly the route narrows into a 2- lane track which bottle-necks over two narrow bridges. Traffic crawls for eight miles, until part of it forks south for Cornwall and Toronto. The luckless tourist has probably take 20 minutes to inch along the quarter-mile approach to the first bridge, and another 20 minutes to reach the Toronto junction.

The Ottawa road then climbs and twists between potholes, over hills and through two straggling communities. The long trailers and the heavy commercial juggernauts must swing over the double line on the sharp turns, menacing oncoming traffic and holding up that behind.

"Why can't Canadians learn that we no longer use dog teams?" asked Gary Carter, of St. Louis, Mo, after nursing his sedan along that inadequate trail.

BEWARE P.Q. DRIVERS!

An additional hazard along that road is the selfish and undisciplined Quebec driver. Ottawans say: "If you see a Quebec licence, take evasive action; but duck for cover if you see a plastic religious figure behind the windshield!" (This generally indicates a French- Canadian driver, and they are wild). Here we vividly remember that, after an Ottawa driver was the third fatal victim of a 24 year old Quebec driver, his licence was suspended for only 5 years by a Quebec court.

"I guess those fur traders played it safer by using canoes," Fran Lorraine, of Virginia, told me after the death ride from Montreal.

And that is Canada's much-vaunted Trans Canada Highway!

Of course it is suddenly much improved when it crosses the frontier into Ontario. But the roads become shameful inside the Ottawa city limits.

Canada is expensively and inefficiently over-governed, with responsibilities jealously farmed out between federal, provincial and municipal governments. That the three levels cannot even agree to create standard excellence on such an elementary matter as the nation's pride, the Trans Canada Highway, is a scandal and an eloquent bad omen for other fields. Traffic deaths are up 15 per cent this year. Tourism could fall even more sharply.

China's Bankrupt Policy

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Communist China appears to be following the historical habit of embracing folly at every turn, to the point of antagonizing former sympathizers and allies at a time when the China mainland is in greatest need of friends.

At the current rate of progress in technology and education as assessed by Western visitors, China cannot hope to become an advanced industrialized power for decades to come.

This Communist regime, which favors the use of violence to spread communism throughout the world, is chronically short of food and there are recurring reports of armed might being used to crush peasant uprisings against government seizure of farm production.

Yet amid internal suffering and slow progress, China persists in pursuing an ideological battle with the Soviet Union that it cannot hope to win.

NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS

I would be a different matter if China had a huge array of nuclear weapons to lend force to its views. But so far as can be determined in the West, China has none. It would be different if China had amassed great industrial strength to impress other Communist satellites. Even in this field, China is leagues behind Russia.

At one time India befriended the Mao Tse-tung regime and though India did not have much to offer in material things, this friendship could have helped China obtain greater material support from other quarters. Instead, China antagonized India through border skirmishes that gave the Chinese practically nothing in food or wealth. Now the Chinese face an armed foe on the Indian border.

The Soviet Union at one time gave the Chinese great help in the form of goods, machinery and possibly nuclear technology, but gradually this help was withdrawn, apparently after it became evident that Mao had no intention of accepting Khrushchev's coexistence plan with the West.

IN ISOLATION

More and more China finds itself in isolation in relations with other countries. And yet Peking persists in its cleavage with Moscow. Khrushchev's current visit to Yugoslavia is likely to let loose another Chinese volley that the Soviet leader is consorting with imperialist agents.

The end of this may be to drive Khrushchev into closer relations with the West. At the least, the battle provides China with nothing in the form of material progress.

At the most, it may mean China's policy is spiritually bankrupt and the result of this bankruptcy may be reckless aggression in some part of the Asian continent that could cause danger and hardship for the world but finally may lead to the demise of Mao's regime.

The Arab Cockpit

New York Times

The unification of the Arab "nation" is still the dominant passion of the Arab masses, but the movement toward that goal has now struck a snag that has led to savage infighting among the Arabs themselves. A new strong man has taken over in Syria, and revolutionary courts and firing squads are working overtime there and in Iraq.

Behind this turmoil are many violent cross-currents. But the principal factor is President Nasser's effort not only to build an Arab empire stretching from the Atlantic to the Persian Gulf but also to rule it on the basis of his own authoritarian brand of "Arab socialism."

Once this is achieved he promises to lead the Arabs "with armies, missiles and everything" to "liberate" Palestine and destroy Israel.

But his plans meet potent opposition. The Arab states are willing to join an Arab federation on the basis of equality and self- government; they are not willing to subordinate themselves to Nasser or accept his unitary governmental system.

The Baath regimes in Syria and Iraq, which agreed to a federation in April, reject Egyptian domination and are liquidating all Nasserite elements trying to impose it by force. The Kings of Jordan and Saudi Arabia still defy him; Yemen is in the throes of continued civil war despite armed Egyptian intervention and American and United Nations mediation efforts, and North Africa's most vocal advocate of union, Algerian Premier Ben Bella, pays only lip service to it. Meanwhile, Russia seeks to increase its leverage by backing the Kurd revolt in Iraq.

The United States, as extender of aid to all the states involved, including nearly a billion dollars' worth to Nasser, is trying to maintain a military balance in this vital area and thus preserve peace. But the task is becoming increasingly difficult, and strong measures may soon be needed to prevent a new explosion.

Our Yesterdays
(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
August 23, 1938)

EDMONTON, Aug. 18 (CP)—Work started in Edmonton today on the first Mohammedan mosque ever built in Canada. There are about 2,000 Mohammedans (Moslems) in Canada, including 350 in Alberta and 150 in Edmonton alone, members here said.

Professor Harry Gomez and family who have been residents of Charlottetown for some time, are leaving the city next week to reside in Vancouver, B.C.

TEN YEARS AGO
(August 23, 1953)

Residents and visitors alike are commenting favorably on the attractive gardens in Queen Square. Both the front and back of the Provincial Building have a profusion of beautiful blooms designed to show what an art gardening may be.

Miss Margaret Patricia MacKinnon, Portage, formerly assistant matron at Falconwood Hospital, has resigned her post to re-enter the Armed Services as a lieutenant in the medical corps. Lieut. MacKinnon served in the last war with the Canadian Women's Army Corps.

Chance Plays A Vital Role

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Chance plays a role in survival. Dr. Eugene A. Hildreth tells of a 4-year-old boy who was playing in the yard when a dog walked by. He called to the animal and as it came toward him, the child became frightened and began to run. The dog knocked him down and bit him on the cheek.

An 11-year-old boy saw the incident and identified the dog as belonging to a neighbor. This animal was put under quarantine. Meanwhile, the physician cleaned the child's wound and suggested that the vaccine be withheld pending determination of the dog's condition. The animal remained healthy and the mishap was forgotten. But one month later the bitten child developed rabies and was dead within a week.

What does this have to do with chance? The parents learned after the boy's death that a stray dog of the same breed as the neighbor's, but of different color than the accused animal, was reported to have had rabies. It had been picked up by police and destroyed on the recommendation of a veterinarian.

This tragic story demonstrates that assumptions and guesses can be dangerous. As a rule the circumstances of the bitting incident are an important factor in determining whether the vaccine is needed. A dog that bites after it is teased or provoked usually is healthy. In addition, animals raised in protected environment, such as in a city home, are not likely to be exposed to rabies. On the other hand, the tyke who was bitten on the face and had the skin broken had the worst combination of all. In some instances, the antiserum and vaccine are helpless to prevent rabies unless given within 72 hours.

In 1953 a rabid wolf ran amuck in Iran and 32 people were bitten. None was treated adequately and 15 died. The mortality was 40 per cent among victims nipped on the head and neck but only 10 per cent of those with bites on the limbs or trunk died.

In 1954 a similar attack occurred in Iran; 29 were bitten—18 on the hand and neck. This time the victims were treated with the vaccine, antirabies serum, or both. Four developed rabies, only one of whom had received both treatments. This combination of treatments is regarded as the most effective preventive but it must be given early.

NIGHT SHAMPOOING

J. V. writes: My 13- year- old daughter washes her hair at night and goes to bed while it is still wet. I tell her she will get sinus trouble. Did I claim right or wrong?

REPLY

Wrong. Wet hair will do more harm to the pillow than to your daughter. I assume the room is not too cold and she does not sleep in a draft.

RETAINS FIGURE

Mrs. E. K. writes: I'm 65 years old and have weighed 110 pounds most of my adult life. Is it unusual to remain the same weight for so long?

REPLY

Yes. I know several people who share your experience.

RESENTMENT AND JOINTS

K. C. writes: Can strong feelings of resentment cause arthritis?

REPLY

The cause of arthritis is not known but some individuals develop pain in the joints when emotionally disturbed.

ETHER STILL USED

M. J. writes: Is ether obsolete as an anesthetic?

REPLY

No. It is still used, especially when full relaxation is needed.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Select a camp that is suitable for your child's age group.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The amateur horseman is apt to wonder how anything so full of hay could be as hard as a horse.— Toronto Star.

Magistrate — "You've committed six burglaries in a week." Prisoner— "That's right. If everyone worked as hard as I do we'd be on the road to prosperity."—Galt Reporter.

Even the most useless husband can be helpful to a wife who has trouble with her zippers.—Sarnia Observer.

Then if love really were blind there would be no business for the beauty parlors. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Gad, Sir! The British men of affairs are really going to pot. Now a Member of Parliament has asked the Minister of Public Works to install a swimming pool in the basement of the House of Commons. Just like at Cliveden and the U.S. House of Representatives.— Detroit Free Press.

Scientists at Ontario's Agricultural College, striving for an answer to the problems of the man who hates to mow the lawn, have come a cropper—they seem to think. They have succeeded in growing a lawn that needs no mowing—thanks to new drawfing chemicals. But the grass turns purple. —— Windsor Star.

According to an unimpeachable source in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, the following advertisement appeared under the "Club Notices" in the advertising columns of Central Africa's biggest daily news paper, "The Rhodesia Herald: "Parachute club. Jumping at 7.30 a.m. tomorrow. Training later." — Hamilton Spectator.

Upper Canada Village officials believe they add to the education of city-bred tourists by having a few cows, horses, pigs and sheep in the village pastures. But they haven't yet thought of a tactful explanation for the father who was overheard describing the village oxen to his children as "a cross between a horse and a cow."— Ottawa Journal.

The British Medical Journal has a report from a Surrey doctor who had a four-year-old boy brought in by his mother who suspected he had eaten mothballs. The doctor washed out the lad's stomach and found the remains of several mothballs plus a "rather damp, but nonetheless intact, moth." Asked what had happened, the boy explained he had accidentally swallowed a moth and therefore swallowed a mothball to catch it. Children are so logical that they give their parents butterflies in the stomach, if not moths.— Ottawa Journal.

Electoral Reform

Winnipeg Free Press

An important item to which the Liberal government in Ottawa is addressing itself is the matter of electoral reform. It is reported that it plans to deal with the issue (a) by establishing an independent redistribution commission to deal with the problem of constituency boundaries, (b) by establishing a permanent voters' list, and (c) by reducing the voting age to 18 years.

On the first two proposals it should be able to command a good deal of support. The distribution of federal electoral districts has been unfair since the 1930s, even although the last redistribution took place only a little over a decade ago.

The fact is that the vast movement of people from rural to urban areas has never been recognized electorally in Canada, and the value of a city vote in relation to a vote in a rural constituency has seriously declined.

If this matter is to be set right, the best and most obvious way of doing it is through an independent commission. Such a commission, indeed, has been long overdue.

Equally overdue is the move to establish a permanent voters' list. Over the past six years there have been no less than four general elections in Canada.

Without a permanent voters' list, every voter has had to be enumerated for each election. A permanent staff to keep a continuous count could not possibly involve much more expense and would be much more likely to be accurate and fair to the votrs.

Only on the proposal to lower the voting age are the Liberals on controversial ground. It might be well to keep this as a separate matter, in the interests of the more pressing reforms in the electoral process which are more likely to get general support.

The Harvest Fly

Montreal Gazette

The summer is now at its fullness. One of the surest signs is not to be found on the calendar. It is to be heard in the sound of the cicada, that large noisy insect, sometimes known as the "harvest fly."

In these dog days of midsummer it can be heard making its strange, loud, rattling notes on the three drumlike membranes which are attached to the sides of its body. It is not a musical sound by any standard, but heard in a midsummer warmth, in a dreamy, lazy afternoon, it seems to speak of the richness of this phase of summer.

Midsummer has its other signs. The midsummer weeds are now full-rising to their tall growth. And though they may be a bane in gardens, they have their own loveliness in the fields and hillsides, or among the rocks, or in swampy places. The milkweed flower is now to be seen, and the wild chickery with its blue flower, and the golden rod. And the bullrushes are rising in thick clusters.

And on dark midsummer nights the fireflies sometimes burst like sparks from a fireplace grate. These tiny flashes in the dark, now here, now there, are part of the warm night air, and the high dew-dampened grass.

The earth is tilting on its axis. All the freshness and promise of spring are far behind. Soon the early signs of autumn will begin to appear, the first leaves scattered on the lawns, a little redness in the sunset, and a perceptible shortening of the day.

But in this middle time, despite the weary heat, there is an ease and calm, an opulence of growth, that makes a glory while it lasts. And it should be all the more revealed in, day by day, for it will not last long.

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RESTAURANT
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