The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Deplorable Apathy

There is something very disturbing in the fact that in Tuesday's nomination proceedings in six Island centres under the Provincial Town Act, out of 42 seats at stake only one is to be contested and that in the case of Georgetown no nominations at all were received for the office of mayor or for the six council seats.

The election date is February 5, and Hon. Mr. Stewart, Minister of Municipal Affairs, rightly expresses concern at the prospect of Georgetown, thereafter, being without a municipal government. Under the Act, it would appear that in such circumstances the minister can set a new date for nominations; but unless there is an aroused public spirit in the community the issue could again go by default, leaving our Kings County capital in a humiliating position indeed.

Public service is not a thankful task in many cases, and one can understand the reluctance of those who have given years of such service in municipal affairs to shouldering the burden indefinitely. There should be others prepared to carry on, however, even if it involves some sacrifice of their time and industry. Georgetown has an historic tradition that is well worth preserving. Its future progress and development are of concern to all of us, and it would be a lamentable day for the Province if it ceased to function as a municipality.

It is well worth remembering that our municipal institutions are a vital part of our democratic system. It has been said that without them the "spirit of liberty" about which we talk so much would be endangered; for while there are many limitations on municipal authority, especially when the economy works on a narrow margin, it is healthy to have a division of power between the centre and the various localities. The ensuing tensions and accommodations are in themselves productive of life and vigor.

This is more noticeable, of course, in the federal-provincial setup. But the interconnection between province and municipality is equally important in its way, and this can only be maintained by continued zeal and interest at the local level.

We trust that whatever difficulties are responsible for the poor showing made in Tuesday's nominations, in Georgetown and elsewhere, they will be straightened out and a new look taken by the citizens of these fine communities at the opportunities for public service at their doors. Those who have given freely of their services in this connection are to be commended, but it would be more than disappointing if their example should fail to inspire others to emulate them.

A Serious Matter

Once again, the Auditor-General has presented Parliament with a voluminous report of irregularities in the Government's financial operations, covering all kinds of waste and extravagance in departmental management. It's the same story every year. Eventually this report will be "studied" by the public accounts committee. But even that will be more than can be expected at this session. This report is for the fiscal year 1961-62, and the committee hasn't yet tackled the 1960-61 report.

But this isn't all. The Auditor-General has had occasion to complain that he has been hampered by the Government in keeping track of the public's money. He states in his report that he has been unable to get the staff he needs and this has reduced his audit to the point of "serious concern". And he notes that in one instance the Revenue Department refused to open its tax-collection files for him despite the fact that the law entitles him to "free access at all convenient times to all files, documents and other records . . ."

Finance Minister Nowlan admits that, as Revenue Minister, he took a definite stand against opening certain personal income tax files of some members of Parliament and others against whom tax officers had taken certain action. Mr. Nowlan told reporters after a cabinet meeting the other day that he would never open individual files until the Justice Department gave a ruling that it was legal for him to do so. Under the Income Tax Act he was required to keep individual tax information confidential and there appeared to be an unresolved legal conflict between this act and the Financial Administration Act under which the Auditor-General operates.

This is a matter for grave public concern. The Auditor-General is the watchdog of Parliament. He is above partisan politics and his findings are too important to be sidetracked for other business or stultified by any interference on the Government's part. It was intended that he should be given an absolutely free hand, and if other legislation interferes with this freedom it should be revised without further delay. It will be the duty of the Opposition to press for this revision immediately, if the Government itself doesn't take the initiative

And, incidentally, isn't it possible for the public accounts committee to get a move on, and deal with the Auditor-General's reports immediately after they are presented? What more pressing business is there before it than these annual revelations of how the taxpayers' money has gone down the drain?

The Ominous Factor

It may be, as the Sunday Times of London has suggested, that since Cuba "an ironical affinity seems to have developed between Kennedy and Khrushchev. They have shared, after all, the final responsibility for Armageddon." "I understand very well your anxiety," wrote, Mr. Khrushchev to the U.S. President. "Both you and I understand what kind of weapons they are." Perhaps out of this knowledge shared by the two leaders will come the nuclear test-ban treaty which, according to Washington reports, is close to being agreed upon by the Soviet Union and the United States.

But, amidst all the talk of disarmament, comes the disturbing word that China either has the atomic bomb now or will have it shortly. This, as the Fredericton Gleaner points out, is as great a threat to Russia as to the West. China and Russia are feuding. China is at odds with India. China holds to its hard line against the Western world. And no one in the West can talk to China officially because Peking is an outcast in world councils.

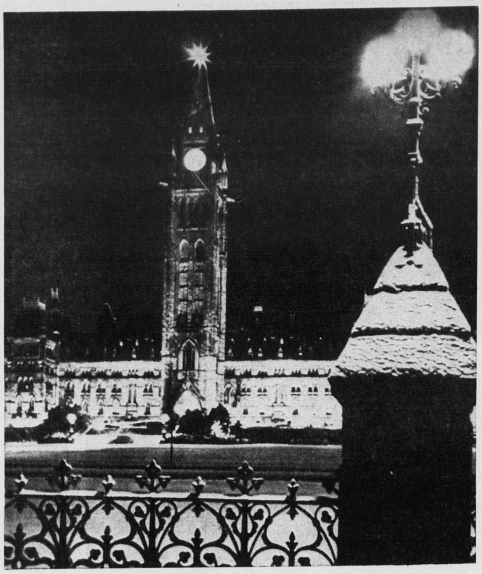
All hopes of disarmament will go for naught if China is excluded from negotiations. Russia and the United States may reach agreement between themselves, but what then? Neither would dare to scrap its weapons if China has the bomb.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Milwaukee Journal prints a formula for getting a husband off the hook after forgetting his wife's birthday. He can say: "How do you expect me to remember your birthday when you never look any older?"

* * *

St. Eleanor's boasts of being "Prince Edward Island's fastest growing community." To prove it, the village commissioners have issued an attractive brochure which we have just received, and which reflects credit on all concerned. Incidentally, among the village's many attractions is the fact that it has one of the few water supplies in Canada containing natural fluorine, so beneficial in preventing tooth decay. It has also fine schools and recreational facilities, fine homes and all that go to make for future development.



WINTER SCENE, PARLIAMENT HILL

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Too Serious For Campaign Jockeying

"Pearson proposes non-weapon role in Norad."

"Grits dead against nuclear weapons."

"Pearson says 'Do away with interceptors'."

Those are three typical newspaper headlines of January just two years ago, when 2,000 Liberal delegates from all parts of Canada were gathered here at the Nationl Liberal Rally.

In his letter to "Dear Fellow-Liberals" two weeks later, Liberal Lester Pearson summarised the party policy hammered out at that rally. The representative delegates had concurred with their leader and his advisers in this policy. Under the heading "Defence", Mr. Pearson's letter set out these decisions, among others:

"Under a new Liberal government Canada will withdraw from NORAD insofar as its present interceptor role is concerned. Liberal policy would, however, provide for an appropriate Canadian contribution to continental defence in co-operation with the USA. The Canadian role in such defence should be that of detection, identification and warning."

NO NUCLEAR ARMS FOR US

"Canada cannot deny nuclear weapons to other nations and at the same time arm her own forces with them. A new Liberal government therefore should not acquire, manufacture or use such weapons either under separate Canadian control or under joint US-Canadian control."

Thus, just exactly two years ago, Mr. Pearson and his Liberal advisers and grass-roots delegates decided that our Air Force should be no more than an organized bird - watching force of unarmed fleers, responsible for defending Canada only by detection, identification and warning. And at the same time our armed forces should not be equipped with nuclear weapons.

A year or so passed, and Mr. Pearson still advocated those policies. During the election campaign last Spring he urged that our Bomarc missile squadrons should not be armed with nuclear warheads. If they were so armed, he predicted, their sites near North Bay, Ontario, and La Macaze, Quebec, would be prime targets for Soviet nuclear missiles and Canadian territory for many miles around would be laid waste in the first Soviet nuclear attack.

MADE IN USA POLICY

After the US general, Lauris Norstad, visited Ottawa and delivered his scolding to Canado, Mr. Pearson came out with a complete switch. Our Bomarcs, our Starfighter interceptor aircraft, and our Honest John artillery units should all be equipped with nuclear warheads under joint US Canadian control or NATO control.

Just before his policy reversal, Mr. Pearson had visited US. This led to Prime Minister Diefenbaker's quip that every time Mr. Pearson goes to US, he comes back with new orders, while in contrast the policies of the Conservative Government are "made in Canada."

Many observers here quite properly minimise this partisan storm in a nuclear teacup. It is all, some suggest, just another but justified example of Canada reacting strongly when our big neighbour treads on our delicate toes called "national sovereignty"; in like manner even Britain and France have recently reacted quite bitterly against President Kennedy's rather brusque superiority towards his "allies." More significantly, perhaps, the varied stances by all our four political parties indicate that our national defence policy should be raised above the scope of partisan politics: it is too serious a matter to be the subject of mere campaign jockeying.

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.

THE CANADIAN FLAG

Sir, — I have read with keen interest, your editorial on the question of a proper and official flag for Canada, and I completely agree with your arguments in favor of the Red Ensign as the required flag, a flag most appropriate in respect to Canada's geography and history; and along with this it is in its general design, a really beautiful flag.

I do not mean to say that this flag is beautiful to the eye of the highly trained artist although for all I know, it may be, but it is, or should certainly be, distinctly attractive to the average Canadian with the average sense of beauty; and I fail to see how a flag devoid of all geographic or historic reference, and any pretense of beauty, such as some propose, can serve in the smallest degree to inspire a worthwhile patriotism in the citizens of Canada or any other country.

Such a flag, it is true, may inspire pride of possession, as the United States flag with its fifty stars certainly does, but this is a comparatively poor pride compared to the sentiments inspired by the historic emblems of England, France, Scotland, and Ireland — all united and emblazoned on the Canadian flag.

And finally, along with all this, there is emblazoned the Maple Leaf that represents the chief glory of our Canadian landscape, and serves at the same time as the beautiful emblem that unites all our Canadian races into one splendid nation whose dominion stretches from the Atlantic to Pacific Sea.

I am, Sir, etc.,

A NATIVE CANADIAN

Charlottetown.

A TRIBUTE

Sir, — As chairman of the School Board for the Charlottetown Daytraining class for Retarded Children, I would like space in your column to pay tribute to the late William E. McTague.

The late Mr. McTague was a quiet and reserved man. Yet he possessed a wealth of talent and was a noted entertainer, and he had a heart of gold. During the year in which he was employed as chauffeur for the Retarded Children's school bus he endeared himself to all the children, the staff of Sherwood Hospital, and all with whom he came in contact. He was endowed with a great sense of loyalty and love for the children and only a few days before his death he said to a friend: —"I miss those children so much."

His position will be hard to fill. He will be sorely missed, and long remembered by all those who work in the cause of Retarded Children.

Such love and devotion will surely have its reward with Him who said: — "Suffer the little ones to come unto Me."

I am Sir, etc.,

F.P. SMITH,
Chairman School Board for The P.E.I. Day Class.

De Gaulle And Russia

By Alan Harvey
Canadian Press Staff Writer

With France temporarily turning a cold shoulder on Britain and the United States, the search is on to discover what really attracts this wayward daughter of the West.

Scandalous as it sounds, some say her roving eye is fastened coquettishly on Russia.

The argument, in its crudest form, is that Gen. de Gaulle's double-barrelled rebuff to the "Anglo - Saxons," delivered at his Paris press conference Jan. 14, must in all logic involve a turning toward the East.

If de Gaulle rejects United States "domination" in defence of Western Europe, it is asserted, he must be looking forward to the day when U.S. troops will be withdrawn from the Continent and "little Europe," led by France and Germany, will come to terms with Russia.

THEORY HAS SUPPORT

There is plenty of source material in de Gaulle's speeches and memoirs to support the thesis. Some Paris newspapers are already canvassing the possibility of what they describe as a "Paris-Moscow axis."

De Gaulle has repeatedly visualized "his" Europe as a balancing force between the two super-powers—Russia and the U.S. He said in 1959:

"It is Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals; it is Europe; it is the whole of Europe that will decide the destiny of the world."

This does not imply that de Gaulle is "soft" on Russia and communism. In fact, he has spoken icily of the Soviets "poisoning the springs" of world relations, and has been more standoffish than any other leading Western statesman about East-West negotiations.

At the same time, he regards rigid ideologies as transient and visualizes Russia evolving with the passage of time into a less aggressve, more bourgeois power.

Frauds On The Aged

Milwaukee Journal

A senate committee in Washington is starting hearings on schemes by which the elderly are defrauded.

It is probably true that old people, in general, are especially vulnerable to tricky deals.

They may have a little capital or other assets that represent their life savings, but an income that seems painfully inadequate. Age may have dulled the critical faculties. The result is that too many fall prey to high pressure salesmanship for worthless health foods and nostrums, questionable land deals, "investments" that offer high returns and home work schemes that bring loss rather than gain. Others are victimized by fraudulent lifetime care contracts

Presumably there is little call for new federal law or regulation to protect these old people from being victimized. The legitimate organizations, institutions and businesses that cater to old people's wants are in the big majority and would be further burdened by added paperwork and expense. The shady operators, by some hook or crook, would find ways to keep on swindling.

Hearings to be held by the special senate committee on aging, headed by Senator McNamara (Dem., Mich.), should, however, hold some of these swindles up to wide public view. This should serve to warn old people who are ready and able to heed. If nothing more results, the hearings will be worthwhile.

Doctors Study Mad Elephant

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

OKLAHOMA psychiatrists do things in a big way, when it comes to research. They bypassed the usual laboratory animals and selected Tusko, a male Asiatic elephant from the Lincoln park zoo in Oklahoma City. The scientists had good reasons for making the selection, even though the experiment backfired.

The male elephant is unique in that he goes berserk once or twice a year. The period of madness (musth) lasts two weeks and is of particular interest to psychiatrists. The bull becomes dangerous when on musth which is the chief reason why there are so few male elephants in captivity. They are likely to attack or destroy anything in their path when on the rampage.

But there is one pecularity about this elephantine madness. The animal's eyes begin to water, and a brown, sticky fluid oozes from the temporal glands, located midway between the eyes and ears. What is this fluid and does it have anything to do with his behavior?

The question makes sense because of the ability of certain chemicals to produce temporary insanity in animals and man. Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) is the drug used most frequently for experimental purposes.

The story of this research project, which appeared in Science, was written by Dr. Louis J. West and Dr. Chester M. Pierce, of the Oklahoma school of medicine, and Warren D. Thomas of the zoo. They wanted to find out whether they could duplicate musth in Tusko, including the discharge from the temporal glands.

A dose of LSD, comparable to that used in humans, was administered via a cartridge syringe. The old boy began to sway, trumpeted, collapsed, and went into convulsions. He died in an hour and 40 minutes.

An autopsy was done and there was no dark fluid in the ducts of the temporal glands. Studies showed that the gland also produces an internal secretion that might contribute to the male animal's madness.

But there is another side to the experiment that should be mentioned. LSD is being used by irresponsible persons to produce temporary illusions and vivid visual hallucinations. If it will kill an elephant, it might kill these blockheads.

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

DAMP WEATHER HEADACHE

C. R. writes: What makes me suffer from headache in damp, rainy weather?

REPLY

Aching in the back part of the head may represent referred pain from an arthritic condition in the spine. If discomfort is located elsewhere, investigate the sinuses and nasal passageways.

EXCESS SALT

J. F. writes: What are the consequences of using too much salt?

REPLY

The excess is excreted by the kidneys in the normal individual. On the other hand, high blood pressure and dropsy are aggravated by too much salt. This is why a low sodium diet is recommended in these disorders.

NEVER TOO OLD

Mrs. F. writes: My husband says I'm too old to taks the tablets against polio and that besides, they would make me sick and do no good. Is this true for a 52 year old?

REPLY

No. Reactions to this vaccine are rare and it should be taken by everyone, regardless of age.

NERVE CANCER

M. M. writes: Can cancer affect a nerve?

REPLY

Yes, but it is not a common type of tumor.

Today's Health Hint—.
There are many arguments against obesity.

Our Yesterday's
(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(January 24, 1938)

Fire destroyed the combined residence and general store of B.C. Webster, Milton, yesterday afternoon, causing a loss estimated at $6,000,000. There was no insurance. Mr. and Mrs. Webster were forced to flee the blazing building without waiting to complete dressing. All their personal belongings and $300 in bills were included in the loss.

The Women's Music Club met for the first time in 1938 in the Canadian National Hotel on Saturday. The subject for the afternoon was "America's Position in Music" and particularly interesting because it included French - Canadian as well as Spanish- American and Afro - American music.

TEN YEARS AGO
(January 24. 1953)

A new record for multiple births and a definite crowding of the nursery has just occurred at the Prince Edward Island Hospital which at the present time has four sets of twins in its care. All the births occurred within a three weeks period and all the youngsters are still in the nursery.

Dr. Robert C. Wallace, one of Canada's greatest educationists, is to give the Samuel Robertson Memorial Lecture at Prince of Wales College on Feb. 26, it was announced at the college yesterday.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Never underestimate your own ability. Other people will do it for you. — Brandon Sun.

When you consider the price of steak it's easy to understand why cows are sacred in Indian. —Calgary Herald.

The dollar may not go as far today as it did a generation ago, but it goes more quickly.—Hamilton Spectator.

In Bismarck, North Dakota, the driver's licence of Police Commissioner Ernest Fleck was suspended for "frequency" of offences after his third arrest for speeding in two years. A police commissioner should not be caught speeding more than once a year? — Ottawa Journal.

The less a person knows what he's talking about, the more time it takes him to explain it. —Sunbury Star.

In a recent radio interview, American harpist Mildred Dilling complained "I can't tell you what it's like to have 103 harps in the house." We imagine it takes a great deal of pluck. — Peterborough Examiner.

Men and women who have claimed to see flying saucers met for a discussion meeting to compare notes in Bologna. They could not agree on anything, the meeting turned into a battle, and the cafe owner threw them out when cups as well as saucers began flying in a battle royal. — La Nazione, Florence.

Deals With Russia

Toronto Telegram

No harm could come from a Soviet - Canada treaty for development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, providing...

Providing there were ample safeguards. for example, to see that the exchange of ideas was a two-way street.

Providing the Russians didn't look with suspicion on everything we do in atomic development.

Providing we entered into the arrangement with our eyes open to the fact that the Soviet Union is not interested in developing a community of interest with us, short of our conversion to Communism.

Providing we recognize that the only possible profit in the venture for us is progress in peaceful use of the atom and the only permissible profit for the Soviets is the same.

Even when the Soviet Union was an "ally" of ours in World War II she was so secretive as to make co-operation extremely difficult, although she was highly receptive to secrets, such as the latest radar, passed on to her from the West.

So, when Soviet Ambassador Aroutunian offers us a nuclear pact, we should accept the offer as bona fide. But it would be a good policy to base any agreement on the quid pro quo —an idea for an idea.

Otherwise, we stand to make our secrets available to the Soviets and get nothing at all in return.

The Nut At The Wheel

Moncton Transcript

A common phrase today in news accounts of automobile accidents is "the car went out of control." Sometimes, of course, this is true. Steering mechanisms break. Brakes fail. Blowouts occur. Hoods fly up, blocking the driver's view. In relatively few serious accidents, however, is mechanical failure responsible. Where control is lost, the human factor is usually involved.

The Transportation Institute at the University of Michigan has studied driving behavior to cast light on this problem. And a report on these studies has just been made by Mr. Bruce Greenshields, the assistant director.

Using a device called a "drivometer and traffic events recorder," researchers gauged driver actions, vehicle motions and traffic situations. A 15-mile course offering varied conditions, from business streets to expressways, was used. Then the researchers sought out, with the aid of state officials and insurance companies, high-accident drivers and those with a long list of serious traffic violations.

The advance guess of the experimenters was that the behavior patterns of the violators and causes of accidents would show many similarities — but would contrast sharply with the performance of acknowledged trouble-free drivers (driver trainers were used).

The extensive tests bore this notion out. Comparisons indicated that high-accident drivers changed speed nearly twice as often as trainers, moved the steering wheel about twice as much, applied the brakes 50 per cent more frequently, altered direction roughly 25 per cent more often.

Altogether, it was found that driver actions (steering wheel, accelerator, brake) averaged 377 for the trainers but averaged 707 for the high-accident drivers. Further comparisons showed that the latter group's patterns are most like those of high school or beginning drivers. Researchers concluded, too, that steering wheel movement was the most sensitive measure of difference between good drivers and the accident-prone.

The Little Troikas

Christian Science Monitor

"The doctrine of the troika" may be "dead," as President Kennedy flatly asserted in his state of the Union message. But the practice of the troika is not. And where practice continues doctrine may be revived again.

The President doubtless had in mind only what might be called the Big Troika — Mr. Khrushchev's once - persistent campaign to immbolize the United Nations Secretariat by giving it a triple, East - West- neutral leadership triply veto - bound. That campaign indeed is quiescent.

But little troikas continue in the international control commissions of Laos and Vietnam. In each, the mutually exclusive aims of Communist and Western delegates clash to leave the refereeing commissions all but useless.

The most recent example has been the attempt of the commission in Laos to oversee the withdrawal of foreign troops from that neutralized land. After much haggling, commission members finally were permitted to visit only two specified posts from which alleged Communist North Vietnamese could easily have been withdrawn for the duration of the inspection. Thus are the quaint Russian customs of the troika and the Potemkin village subtly combined.

Oddly enough, although Washington has reluctantly agreed to these little troikas as being better than full- scale shooting battles and Moscow has found them a preferred means for continuing wars at less cost, Peking has looked on them with distrust. There is considerable evidence, for instance, that the Chinese feel India has been gaining undue weight and prestige in Asia through serving as the neutral member of these commissions which, immobilized though they are, do act as sounding boards for charges against Chinese backed expansionism.

Structurally, the troika is little different from that hallowed American institution, the check-and- balance system. But there is a radical difference between the conflict - resolving powers of the American executive- legislative - judical troika—drawn from a single society— and the conflict - freezing powers of the cold war troikas still in existence.

CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY

Presents

"WOMEN ARE LIKE THAT"

Music by Mozart

This gay musical comedy is being put on at the Prince of Wales College Auditorium.

FEB. 1st - 2nd

Admission 1.50

A special subsidized matinee for school children only Fri. afternoon, Feb. 1st at 2:30 p.m., a special service to enable our young people to see this fine drama and music at the record low price of 25 cents.

Tickets will be on Sale at Toombs Music Store and Miller Brothers