

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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PAGE 4 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1966

A Lot At Stake

A greatly expanded manpower retraining program that would be financed almost entirely by the federal government has been proposed at the tax conference now in session at Ottawa. This in conjunction with the proposed increase in federal aid to higher education should mark a forward step in recognition by Ottawa of its responsibilities for this phase of national economic development. It is in line with the recommendations of the Economic Council of Canada; but as noted in our Ottawa dispatches, there still is confusion over the federal position, and it is not at all clear that the proposals will prove acceptable.

The conference, of course, has been called for other purposes as well, not the least important of which is the chance it provides for getting the new equalization grants formula straightened out. The existing tax-sharing agreements with the provinces expire at the end of this year. Barring a one-year extension, this conference is probably the last that will be held before the tax-sharing legislation is laid before Parliament. The last chance our Prince Edward Island representatives may have, in short, of obtaining something better than the beggarly increase offered us under the formula as announced by Finance Minister Sharp last month.

MISLEADING TWIST — Premier Campbell has expressed confidence that further recognition will be accorded to our special fiscal needs. Let us hope so, indeed. But he chose to give his statement a misleading political twist by alleging that our position "is not as bright as it was represented to be by the previous administration," and for that reason that it would be "extremely reckless for us as a government to enter into further and expansive new programs without first determining where the money is coming from."

What is the purpose of this persistent attempt to saddle the former Shaw government with having misrepresented our fiscal prospects before the election? Mr. Campbell must know there is not a word of truth in it, for he and his colleagues, in their brief presented at the Ottawa conference last month, are on record to the contrary.

The Campbell government took office on July 28 last, and in its brief to the conference, dated Sept. 14, it stated explicitly: "We have had up until a month ago every reason for optimism." This was due to the fact that for the past two years the federal-provincial continuing committee on fiscal and economic matters had been conducting an exhaustive survey of fiscal requirements on the three levels of government. In view of these studies, said the brief, "we were quite confident that the ultimate result would provide substantial additional fiscal benefits to all provinces."

WHEN THE BLOW FELL — It was only within the month preceding Sept. 14 that "our hopes were temporarily shattered" by the official announcement that the proposed new formula "completely disregards the basic principles of fiscal arrangements necessary to assure a full and adequate share in the development and use of major fiscal resources." That's what the brief says; and that would be weeks after the Conservatives vacated office, wouldn't it? As we pointed out before in this connection, if there is any blame for concealing the news of our shattered hopes before it was divulged at the September conference, Mr. Campbell and his colleagues must be held responsible. Why, in the face of such evidence, do they accuse the Shaw government and not their own liberal party friends at Ottawa of having misled them?

Why cannot they forget partisan politics for a week at least, and get on with the job that has taken them to the federal capital? Two years of labor by their predecessors have gone into the preparation of the convincing arguments they have at their disposal for obtaining a better fiscal deal for this province. Let them be thankful they are so well armed with the ammunition thus provided for them, and concentrate on using it to the best advantage.

N.B. Competition

It is interesting to note, in connection with the provincial tourist department's recently announced program for rural and urban beautification, that New Brunswick is embarking on a similar objective, and is making it a key factor in its Centennial Year planning. This should spur us to greater efforts on our own behalf. If other provinces should get into the race, so much the better, for in a competition of this kind, there are no losers.

In New Brunswick they've formed a provincial committee to head up the drive, and every town and city is invited to participate in a beautification seminar, scheduled for Fredericton on Nov. 9, and billed as being the first such function to be held in Canada. Films will be screened and specialists in community planning and beautification will be present to lead discussions and present ideas for consideration.

Programs for rural areas will be developed separately, and already some community groups such as Women's Institutes have agreed to stage beautification campaigns in certain areas. Government action to control and/or clean up in some manner unsightly automobile junk yards throughout the province is hinted at. The possibility of some form of legislation at the fall sitting of the N.B. legislature is not ruled out by some members of government.

One feature of the cleanup operation is that it is not a shared cost program with money coming to those willing to expend elbow grease on neater homes and properties. The appeal is to civic pride and a desire to beautify the province for the national birthday year of 1967.

Well, we should lose no time in getting our own community planning under way, and making it an example to all Canada of what a real beautification program can achieve!

Needs New Status

It is not surprising, suggests the London Free Press, that Mr Justice Montpetit's inquiry into post office working conditions found such a failure in communications between management and employees. For years the post office department has been a bureaucratic entity in itself. In large measure this may be explained by the fact that the department is both plum and orphan in the political scheme of things at Ottawa — an easy and casual ministerial portfolio and one so frequently handed on from one minister to another.

This being the case, ministerial interest and guidance have been minimal and as a consequence administration has been left largely to designated officials, from deputy minister on through the divisions and the ranks. Recent attempts to increase departmental efficiency, plus a vastly increased volume of mail, have caused extraordinary pressures — and resentments.

The commissioner's recommendations will go a long way towards improving conditions within the postal service; but he might have gone one step further. He might have suggested that the department's status be enhanced by according it the recognition it deserves on the government level: the leadership of other than a postmaster general en route to another portfolio.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Union Nationale won't have any connection with the Conservative Party of Canada, says leader Daniel Johnson. That, comments an exchange, is good news for Conservatives everywhere in Canada.

The Commons has been informed that a guide to minimize automobile accidents and a new 27-point list of safety standards may be issued by the federal government by the end of the year. The standards governing equipment on cars and light trucks now are before the Canadian government specifications board. Approval may come within a month. They would be mandatory only for federal vehicles, but federal and provincial officials are discussing ways and means of making the standards mandatory throughout the country.



"HOW DARE YOU WASTE WATER LIKE THAT?" OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Proposes Criminal Code Amendment

Proving that Parliament is not all play and partisanship, Woodstock's MP Wally Nesbitt has introduced a piece of real commonsense legislation. And when he discussed it informally with the Solicitor-General Larry Pennell, he won from him the high accolade: "Why didn't I think of that myself?"

Wally's proposal is an amendment to the Criminal Code.

Did you ever feel too fuddled to continue your home work drive, say after the office Christmas party, or your buddy's birthday? If you pull into the side of the road, switch off the car engine, put the keys into your pocket, and get into the back for a short sleep, you are drunk in charge of a motor vehicle, "whether it is in motion or not," says Article 222 of the Criminal Code.

The first offence will probably fetch you seven days in jail, and a year's suspension of your driving licence. So the drunk has an incentive to continue driving and hope to get away with it, rather than to pull up and risk conviction. Wally proposes simply and sanely that that clause and that penalty shall not apply if the ruster has "refrained from putting his vehicle in motion, or has stopped the same..."

Solicitor General Pennell has assured Wally that his bill will be referred to committee, and probably quickly be enacted into law. Bravo, Wally. That is what he described to me as "non-political constructive activity."

CABINET CHANGES

Parliament Hill is buzzing with reports of an imminent shake-up, not just a reshuffle, within the Cabinet. Justice Minister Cardin wants to resign, and seeks an appointment as ambassador. Former Justice Minister Guy Favreau wants to resign and be appointed to a vacancy as Judge on the Quebec Superior Court. Fisheries Minister Herard Robichaud has his eyes set on a New Brunswick vacancy in the Senate. This would open the way for Maurice Lamontagne to return to the cabinet. The other Quebec vacancy should be filled by Bryce Mackasey, former chairman of the Liberal caucus; he might be blocked unfairly and unreasonably by the archaic concept that French-Canadian blood rather than ability is the qualification for a Quebec cabinet appointment. But both Manitoba and New Brunswick are now represented by French-Canadians in the Cabinet.

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (October 25, 1941)

The United States government has abandoned hope of coming to terms with Japan, Navy Secretary Frank Knox indicated, adding that a "Collision" in the Orient appears almost inevitable.

The Petain government announced — without confirmation or denial — that a rumor was circulating that Marshal Petain himself wished to become a hostage to cut short the Germans' mass reprisal executions which have already cost 100 French lives.

TEN YEARS AGO (October 25, 1956)

Hungary's bloody rebellion against Soviet domination and the Budapest Red leadership blazed through its second night and spread to the provinces. But apparently it was being crushed systematically by overpowering Russian armed force.

Ceremonies commemorating the first year of the existence of Notre Dame Academy, formally opened Centennial Year celebrations at this girls' school in Charlottetown.

Wild Geese In Autumn

New York Times

Of all the migrant birds, the wild goose seems most to typify the restless spirit of autumn. A part of this comes from the fact that geese are big, spectacular birds and travel in flocks, often huge flocks.

But another part is the garrulousness of geese. Most birds travel in silence, but not the geese. In the air or on the water, they chatter and gabble, gossip and confers. Geese are not reticent birds.

You begin to hear and see them now, moving down by stages from the north. In a city street, a suburban dooryard or at a rural roadside, you hear the distant clamor. It seems to echo from the whole sky. You look up, searching, and at last you see the penciled "V" high against the blue, arrowing southward.

Refrigerated History

Montreal Star

A group of scientists employed by an offshoot of the U. S. Army, the Materiel Command's Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, has just reported reaching rock in a project to drill through the icecap on Greenland. It was reached under 4,562 feet of ice, which has taken an estimated 10,000 years to accumulate.

Along with accurate knowledge of the depth of the ice at the drilling site, scientists will be able to learn something about a number of other things, such as climate during the time the ice was forming, in part from dust and pollen deposited. (The climate 1,000 years ago was about the same as now.) The 10,000-year figure suggests that Greenland was ice-free at that time. Which might, in turn, suggest that a tremendous change in climate has taken place between a previous time and now. Not necessarily, it appears. "Just enough fall in temperature to accumulate a little more snow in the winter than melts in the summer," writes Isaac Asimov, or vice versa. About 3.5 degrees Centigrade in Earth's annual average temperature.

A Red Silk Suit

Christian Science Monitor

Nothing more graphically illustrates the present divergent paths of Mao's China and the Soviet Union than the latest fashion news coming out of the two countries.

The Chinese women are "dressed in baggy, ill-fitting tunics and pantalones, their hair cut short." Cosmetics are out. Beauty parlors are closed. It is hard, at first glance, to tell the women from the men. Fashion itself has gone out of fashion. Meanwhile, Moscow's House of Fashion has introduced the modified miniskirt. A deputy minister of light industry was on hand for the historic occasion. In some cases high heels have gone up to 2 1/2 inches. We do not mean to imply that Moscow has suddenly become Paris or Rome London or New York, but its fashion vane is pointing due West.

Wanted Man Burned Alive

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Liver Infection

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Viral hepatitis is like an iceberg. For every case of this liver disease that is verified, there are as many as 30 that go undetected. The attack may be so mild that the symptoms are passed off as flu or slight cold. This is what makes the disorder so tricky because the liver is damaged and every victim is contagious whether or not the hepatitis is recognized.

The onset of the disease follows a familiar pattern. The victim complains of malaise, fatigue, and loss of appetite. There may be some distress in the upper part of the right side of the abdomen. The skin may itch, the heart beats faster, and the temperature rises. Some complain that the smell of tobacco smoke is nauseating. If the infection stops here it is likely to be regarded as influenza. The one victim in 30 gets worse and a week later the skin and whites of the eye turn yellow. The yellowish tinge is caused by bile in the tissues that is forced into the blood stream by the blockage created when the liver cells swell.

Viral hepatitis is on the increase and 1966 may be a record year. The unreported cases make control difficult. The causative viruses are eliminated via the intestinal contents and spread by contaminated water, food, and hands. Shellfish from polluted waters were implicated in outbreaks a few years ago. The peak incidence is in autumn and early winter.

One attack is followed by everlasting immunity. Children and young adults are most susceptible although it is gradually becoming a "growing up" disease, in that more and more adults are developing the disorder. It is common in institutions, military bases, and wherever living conditions are crowded and sanitation is poor. Hepatitis may also follow a blood transfusion donated by a person who had the condition within a year.

Bed rest, diet, faultless hygiene and perfect sanitation are the best remedies. Gamma globulin is the only preventive.

LIMITED BLOOD FLOW

BC ROOKIE AT UN Howard Johnston, the newly-elected Social Credit MP for Okanagan-Revelstoke, has just returned from two weeks spent as an observer with the Canadian delegation at the United Nations. He has brought back some perceptive views on international affairs and Canada's role, and he has high praise for the smooth diplomatic effectiveness of our ambassador there, George Ignatieff. That meeting carried Howard back a quarter century, when as a student at Enderby High School, near Vernon, B.C., he was taught by the talented brothers are grandsons of Count Paul Ignatieff, once the czar's most talented diplomat who, says Howard, was nicknamed "The Fox of the Balkans."

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Objects far out in space are called quasars, and all along we thought they were whatzats. — Windsor Star.

A Toronto man has been convicted of common assault after being found guilty of kissing a woman's feet in public. He was placed on probation for two years. We're happy to report, however, that the magistrate didn't give him a long lecture to boot. — Hamilton Spectator.

"Tonga tortoise dies waiting for mate," says a New York Times headline. Wives who have appointments to keep with their husbands should bear this sad tale in mind. — Ottawa Journal.

Punishment Fits Crime

Guelph Mercury

Texas is a great state for teenage juries. And they hand out some stiff penalties. In a recent case of a 14-year-old boy — the teen-age juror are used only for trials of 14-17 year olds — who took the family car without his father's permission, raced through several red lights and hit a speed of 115 miles an hour, the jury handed down a guilty verdict and a five-point punishment.

The boy, who did not have a driver's licence, was ordered to enroll in a driver's training course and obtain a licence, spend every other Saturday night for six months in the emergency ward of the city hospital and write a report on the experience, spend every other Friday afternoon observing of traffic checks made by radar units, attend Sunday school regularly and raise his academic average to a "B."

Wriggling To The Sargasso

National Geographic Society

Once in the life of every female American eel there comes an irresistible urge to go down to the sea again. The time is autumn. Mature female eels in fresh water rivers and lakes of eastern North America start feeding. Their muddy-brown color turns almost black.

Then vast armies of eels wriggle towards their deep-sea spawning ground, the relatively quiet waters of the Sargasso Sea between the West Indies and the Azores.

At the same time, European eels, their dark bodies turned silvery, are making a similar journey.

SLITHER OVER GRASS

Resting by day, moving at night, the eels head downstream, all along the Atlantic coast of North America and down the rivers of Europe. So great is the need to return to the sea that eels will slither a mile or more across dewy meadows to reach streams leading to salt water.

The females meet the male eels, which have reached maturity living near river mouths, and all swim to a place in the Sargasso Sea near Bermuda, saltiest spot in the North Atlantic. There, 1,500 feet beneath the surface, the eels spawn and die.

The place where American and European eels spawn was a complete mystery until recent times. For centuries scientists had speculated on the origin of eels.

Aristotle thought eels must be derived out of "the bowels of the earth" by some kind of spontaneous generation. Pliny the Elder, the Roman naturalist, believed that eels rubbed themselves against rocks; the pieces that

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Canada Savings Bonds advertisement with logo and text.

Quality Printing advertisement with text and logo.

Firestone advertisement with text and logo.

Guardian-Patriot Central Printery advertisement with text and logo.

Canada Savings Bonds advertisement with large text and logo.