

Cover: Prince Edward Island Like the Dew...
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atchewan legislators first attempted to bring some order out of the confusion. Their problem was more than ordinarily complicated. They had to face the division of opinion between town and country—with city folk wanting fast time and farmers opposing it.

Provincial Budget

"Despite the fact that the Atlantic Provinces Assistance Grant is only 50 per cent of this Province's requirements, nevertheless the grant in its present form does go a long way in recognizing the fiscal need of the four Provinces."

Due to this assistance from the Diefenbaker Government, and—as Mr. MacDonald was naturally at pains to point out—to careful Provincial financing—there has been a marked improvement in our economy.

The net debt, however, continues to mount. For this year it will show an increase—not of \$155,734 as budgeted for last session—but of \$1,959,025.

As previously indicated, the hospital insurance premium will be \$2.00 per month for single persons and \$4.00 per month per family. It is estimated that these premiums will amount to \$675,000 for the period the plan will be in effect during the next fiscal year.

As has been the practice in recent years, the Budget deals with the figures for three fiscal periods—the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 1958, the Interim Statement of revenue and expenditure for the current year ended March 31, and the Estimates for the forthcoming year, April 1, 1959 to March 31, 1960.

"Today," reports the Minister, "our revenues are gradually increasing, and continue to yield material surpluses over expenditure on current account, our provincial credit standing is higher, and our provincial financial position sounder."

Time In Saskatchewan
Prince Edward Island isn't the only Province which is plagued with disputes over the question of Daylight vs. Standard Time.

After years of wrangling a plebiscite was held in 1955 in which voters were asked to express their preference. But the plebiscite solved nothing; it added to the confusion.

But there were no penalties for anyone who didn't obey the law. With the result that many towns and villages which had been accustomed to Central Standard Time stayed on it when winter came.

The Saskatchewan Government sadly acknowledged its failure when in the 1959 Throne Speech it asked the legislators to refer the question of time back again to a standing committee.

There the matter rests while the standing committee has another go at it. But it looks as if for a while yet the time will be out of joint in Saskatchewan.

Old Age Pensions

The long-awaited Clark report on old age pensions will be disappointing to those who had hoped to see the United States system established here. The report merely indicates that a contributory government scheme, limited in scope, can be added to the universal old age pension and to the private schemes now in operation.

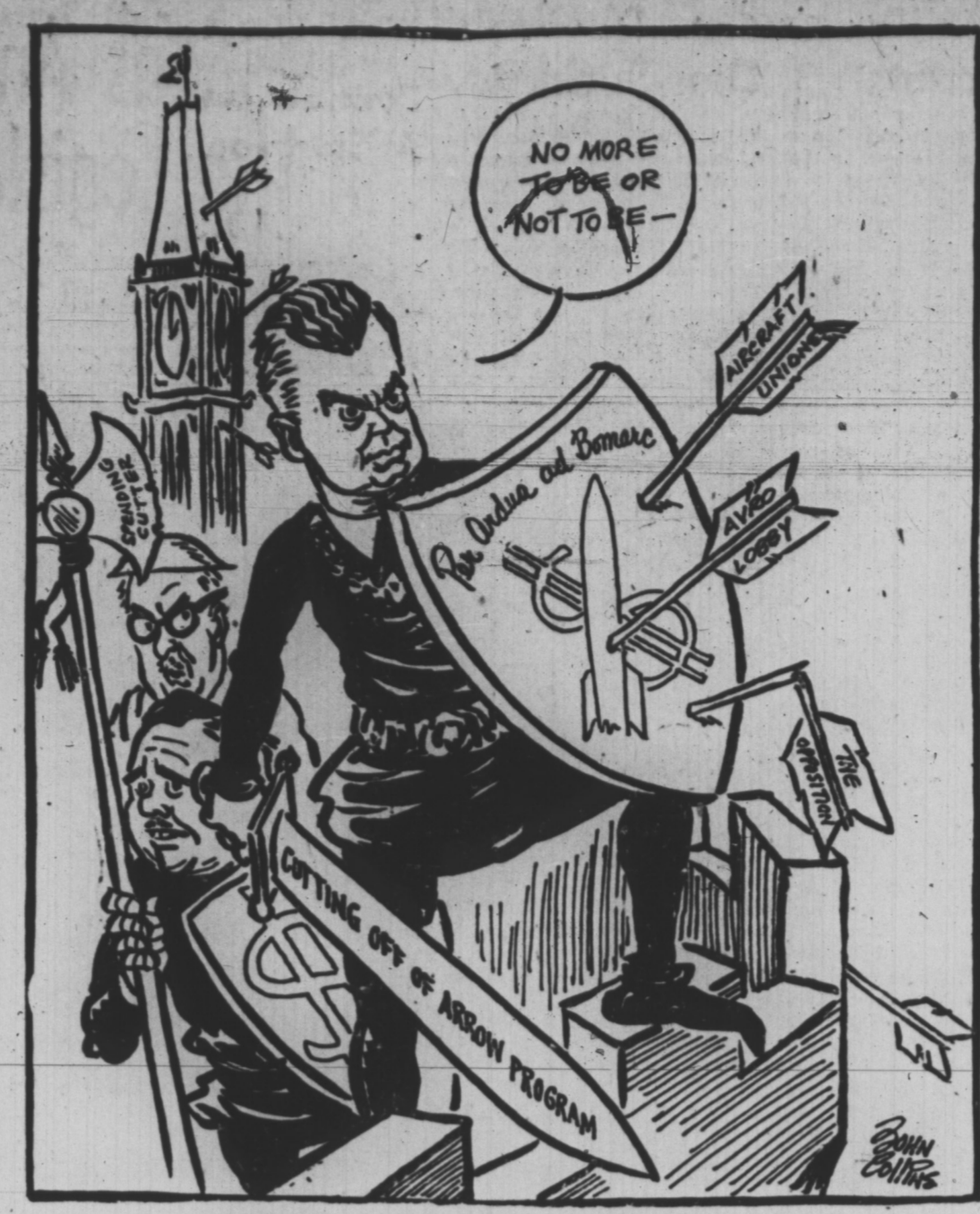
The present \$55 universal pension would be retained as a minimum, as against the \$33 minimum paid under the pension plan in the United States, a much richer country. It is doubtful whether a Canadian supplementary scheme could afford high payments, and remain actuarially sound, without requiring contributions from the recipient that would be almost prohibitive in many cases.

The report notes that contributions to the universal old age pension fund are failing behind; it is here, perhaps, that the government could best remedy the situation. The contributions are 2 per cent of income tax, 2 per cent of corporation tax, and 2 per cent of sales tax.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The New Zealand Parliament has added something to its Hansard—an Index Expurgatorius. In an effort to clean up non-parliamentary language in its debates the Parliament is publishing a list of forbidden words and expressions.

Two provinces, on the edges of the country, are passing legislation to curb reckless actions by organized labor. That in Newfoundland is the most extreme. It would revoke certification of International Woodworkers of America locals, and keep the Teamsters Union out of the province.



"THE SLINGS AND ARROWS..."

OTTAWA REPORT

Athabaska Tar Sands

By Patrick Nicholson

The explosion of an atom bomb in Canada could make us rich enough to be able to buy Canada back from the Yankees. This paradoxical possibility is being fostered by the Conservative Government, under its policy of implementing "the Diefenbaker vision" of northern development.

Dr. Convey, a senior scientist in our Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, explained to the committee that an atom bomb can be detonated beneath the tar sands, 12000 feet beneath the surface of the earth, with complete safety to human life. "It will not even ruffle the surface," he said; yet it would release the sandlocked oil.

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.

THE HIGHWAY TOLL

Sir,—With the coming of Spring, more and more cars will again be zooming along our highways—new cars, wider and faster cars, near new and old cars with one eye closed and no tail light. We see trucks new and old tearing along the highways with tired drivers weary from long hours behind the wheel, and on grades and at church entrances we see newer cars with speed-crazed drivers with a lust for speed, taking that chance that so many lives has failed.

Kassem's Tightrope Act

By Joseph MacSweeney Canadian Press Staff Writer

The Iraqi rebels apparently want to steer their country into a closer alliance with President Nasser and his United Arab Republic. But many questions are unanswered. Perhaps the most accurate summary—however cloudy—of Western diplomatic reaction to the new Iraqi struggle was given by John D. Profumo, British minister of state for foreign affairs, when he said Monday: "The situation is clearly very confused."

DELICATE BALANCE

Kassem, a brooding soldier, emerged as premier. Since then he has repeatedly been described as a man walking a political tightrope between Communist influences and the pan-Arab ambitions of Nasser.

LONG ACT

Kassem's tightrope act began shortly after the July revolt. He removed his popular fellow conspirator, Col. Abdel Nasser Aref, an ardent admirer of Nasser, as deputy commander of armed forces, then smashed a plot by supporters of Aref in October.

CONFUSED LINES

All this gives a picture of a man trying to balance opposing and "hungry" friends. As usual in Middle East politics, the dividing lines between ideological conflict and the constant battles between the ins and the-outs are

NO MORE TO BE OR NOT TO BE...
The year 1990 at current rates. It is enough to buy back forty times over the present U.S. and other foreign investment in Canada. In fact, it is enough wealth to pay nine times over for all the man-made improvements of all kinds at present in use across Canada, such as our churches, schools, parks, mills, roads, bridges, plants, railroads, airports, canals and all our homes and everything in them, even the car in your garage.

That Morning Sprint Unsafe

DON'T RUN to catch the 8:05. That wild sprint to catch the morning train or bus places too much of a strain on your heart. If you miss your connections, so what? There will be another train or bus along in a little while. Certainly the boss will forgive you—if it doesn't happen too often.

MARYLAND FARMHOUSE

MARYLAND FARMHOUSE from other lives and times the sounds still fall Through rooms that keep remembrance with the past. From hedge of ancient yew and ivied wall Come echoes of an age whose peace will last.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

S. E. L.: I am troubled with an irritable colon. Could you recommend a remedy? Answer:—An irritable colon may be due to faulty diet, habitual use of cathartics or to "nerves." A non-irritating diet, avoiding acid, fried and gas-producing food, should be helpful. Regulate the bowels without laxatives and try to control your nerves. Your physician is able to prescribe a helpful remedy.

THE AGE OLD STORY

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and happy is every one that retaineth her. An almost fatal accident occurred at Freddie's Service Station, Montague, when Mr. Levi Power and Mr. Mac Clair were almost overcome with carbon monoxide gas.

SKIN ITCH

To quickly clear your skin of embarrassing external blemishes, Eczema, Rash, Pimples, Itching, Cracking, Peeling, Skin or Foot Itch get new scientific, anti-itching, healing, MEDERM from drugstore today for a clearer, softer, smoother skin. It works while you sleep. Quickly stops itching and irritation. Get MEDERM today... look better tomorrow.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

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OUR YESTERDAYS

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TEN YEARS AGO

(March 11, 1949) Total ordinary and capital expenditures of \$7,402,640 for the coming fiscal year, involving an estimated debt increase of \$986,066, was budgeted for by Premier J. Walter Jones last night in the sitting of the Legislature. For ordinary expenditure he budgeted for \$5,724,140, leaving an estimated surplus of approximately \$56,965.

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