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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

MONDAY, JANUARY, 9, 1956

A Trying Weekend

Prince Edward Island is usually free from violent disruptions of any kind, but the breakdown in power and communication services resulting from the week-end sleet storms falls well within this category.

This is a time when the virtue of cooperation among neighbors and communities, which was a marked feature of our pioneer past, comes into full play.

In this battle with the elements the unsung heroes are the linesmen of the telephone, telegraph and electric companies who are working day and night under tremendous difficulties.

This Province still has a long way to go in rural electrification, but the havoc wrought in disruption of rural services indicates the progress we have made in this respect in recent years.

Our New Building

Last week was "moving week" at The Guardian, every day being occupied with moving equipment and machinery from the old building to the commodious new one on the opposite side of Prince Street.

We are, of course, proud of the new Guardian Building and the magnificent facilities it provides for serving Prince Edward Island along modern newspaper lines.

and everyone who has had occasion to move household belongings from one home to another will appreciate the nature of the task on the larger scale involved in the newspaper business.

It has been an exciting as well as arduous experience, for it has meant not only a change of domicile but new techniques, adjustments and improvements all along the line, in office and newsroom methods as well as in mechanical operation in the composing room, press room and other departments.

Work in the press room is still going on and it will be some months before the full press facilities will be available. But today sees our first edition from the new plant, and the changeover finally accomplished after months of planning and preparation.

Farm Revenue Problem

When Parliament meets this week it will face many problems, but one of the most important, surely, is that of farm income.

In his statement to the federal-provincial agricultural conference last month, Mr. H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, pointed to some of the reasons for this disturbing trend.

"While world trade in non-agricultural goods is 40 percent above pre-war, world trade in farm products is about on the same level as in the immediate pre-war period.

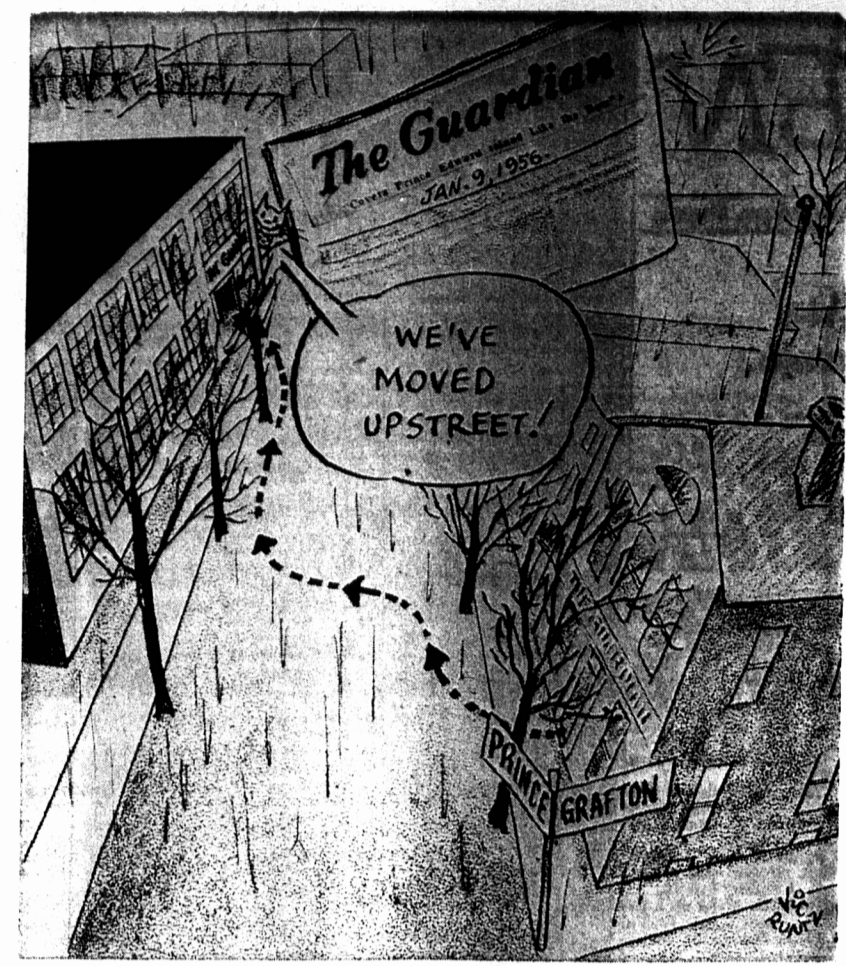
Canada is by no means unique in this contrast between the position of agriculture and that of the rest of the economy.

Canada is by no means unique in this contrast between the position of agriculture and that of the rest of the economy. In the United States, in spite of a price support program for basic commodities at much higher levels than in Canada, prices of farm products are steadily slipping.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Officials and keepers at London Zoo are now beginning their biggest job of the year—counting the various inmates in the 80-odd houses and enclosures.

According to a report in the New York Times, Canadian Affairs Minister Pearson found on his visit to India that the people of that country appear to be more grateful to the Soviet Union for the "promise" of \$100 million than they are to the United States for giving them outright more than four times as much.



ON TOP OF IT ALL

Water Fluoridation

Ottawa Citizen

In view of the renewed interest in water fluoridation following the Brantford, Ontario, and Newburgh, N. Y., reports, a recent judgment of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick is of some interest.

Chief Justice McNeil ruled that under the provisions of the Public Health Act of New Brunswick it is illegal to add fluorides to a municipal water supply. He agreed that fluorine was a substance which, under certain conditions and in certain quantities, could prove harmful.

Proponents of fluoridation fear that Chief Justice McNeil's ruling may be misinterpreted. They point out that far from condemning fluoridation as it is being practiced today he was, in effect, merely stating that the present Public Health Act makes no provision for the addition of fluorine to municipal water supplies.

Certainly this appears to be the interpretation placed on the judgment by the provincial government, which has given notice that it will seek an amendment to the act which will legalize the use of fluorides.

Those who have closely studied the subject are the first to admit that an excess of fluoride is just as undesirable as a total lack of it. Their investigations have disclosed that while the presence of fluorides in water to the proportion of 1.02 to 1.2 parts per million of water reduces tooth decay in children, mottling of teeth begins to occur when the fluoride content exceeds 1.5 parts per million.

For instance, although the water supply of the city of Stratford contains 1.6 ppm. of natural fluorine, the residents have remarkably fine teeth and any mottling which occurs can be detected only by a dentist looking for signs of it.

Strangely enough, the beneficial results to be obtained from the controlled use of fluorides were discovered during an investigation into the mottling of the teeth of school children in Colorado Springs. Dr. Frederick McKay, a dentist, discovered that when mottled enamel was found the incidence of tooth decay was lower than usual.

Investigating the mottled teeth phenomenon, he found one small village where all of the teeth of all of the children were actually black. Yet at the same time hardly any of the children had any tooth decay. He persuaded the village authorities to find another water supply, and at the end of eight years he returned to find the children brought up on the new supply all had white teeth. But to his dismay, he also found that the incidence of tooth decay was amazingly high.

Apparently Dr. McKay now began to realize, or at least suspect, that the presence or absence of fluorides had much to do with the presence or absence of mottled teeth and tooth decay.

One can skip the long intervening years of research and study into fluoridation which have culminated in the Brantford and Newburgh reports. In brief, these studies revealed that the right percentage of fluorine in the water means sound teeth. The studies also showed that while many wells, lakes and streams contain fluorine, most larger lakes and rivers from which municipal water supplies are obtained contain little if any.

Artificial fluoridation appeared to be the answer. At the anti-fluoridationists began to argue that fluorides applied by nature were present in a different form from those applied by man. But their argument failed to hold up when they were unable to disclose in what form fluorine is present naturally in water. No one knows as what form fluorine is present in the sea, for instance, where it is found in the proportion of 1.4 parts per million of water. No one can say whether it is there as a

Water Fluoridation

Ottawa Citizen

When roses wilt and withered grapevines freeze, against gray walls where life no longer clambers, when moaning winds among the leafless trees

Discourse anew of long-ago December, and the dusk shudders as pale shadows dart into an ever-darkening tomorrow that lengthens onward — for the grieving heart

What solace, atoning these, can heal such sorrow? That blends the wind's moan with the willed rose

Unblends them to reveal, in bas-relief, Beauty that shares repose and unrepose, The spiritual form of God's own face

In lineaments of all-atoning grace. —Percy MacKay in the New York Times.

adians get their fluorine daily via natural water supplies but every single citizen regularly consumes fluorides in the food that he eats.

Canned salmon, for instance, is high in fluorides—from 8.5 to 9.0 ppm., some went as high as 1.36 ppm. (Parkside School, in the Moncton area); and even 2.66, p which was discovered at the Coverdale Naval Station.

Her Nature had certainly overdone her job. But not only do thousand of Can-

New Guinea's Lost Tribe

By Rex Banks Associated Press, Canberra

After hearing about him for weeks on the "jungle telegraph," a primitive lost tribe in New Guinea's wild central mountains has finally met the white man face to face.

An Australian patrol, searching for airport sites in the area, found the tribe in a small chain of valleys isolated by dense rain forests northwest of the administrative outpost of Tari.

The natives, called Dumas by Australians, indicated by signs that, though they'd never before seen white men, they knew they had dropped from the sky.

It was a sound piece of native reasoning since planes had made an extensive aerial survey of the region before the patrol hacked its way in during a foot-wearing 62-day journey. The Dumas had heard the jungle drums rap out a message that the big planes belonged to white men.

The wigs are one of the most striking features of the Dumas, who are typical mountain men, short and sturdy with well developed chests. Each wig is elaborately made and reveals the Dumas' pride and artistry in personal ornamentation. Some are made from various shades of opossum fur, small dry leaves are cunningly used for others to achieve a fish scale effect, with each leaf overlapping another.

Noses and earlobes are customarily pierced with a pig tusk, a stalk of cane or a quill decorated with bright beads and feathers. In addition, the natives thread their ears with pendants of string, red beads and pieces of broken shell. A few men were spotted with small beads plaited into their beards in an arc from ear to ear.

Like most New Guinea tribes, the Dumas are a fighting race and their main weapon is the bow and arrow.

Medically Speaking

Worry and Fear Make Labor More Difficult

Don't fear childbirth! Worry and fear about labor pain only makes the pain worse. If we can dispel the fear many expectant mothers have, practically all uncomplicated labor cases may become virtually painless.

In fact, a British surgeon, Dr. Granly Dick Read, predicts severe pain can be avoided or abolished entirely in at least 90 per cent of deliveries by eliminating tension and fear.

The reasons for this are relatively simple. Both fear and pain are mechanisms designed to protect your body. They alert it to the threat or presence of injury.

Fear causes tension in the uterus during labor and pain usually results. Writing in the Western Journal of Surgery Dr. Read explains this action.

Muscles supplied by the sympathetic nervous system contract when a person experiences fear. CIRCULAR FIBERS

The circular fibers are the only muscles of the uterus with a sympathetic nerve supply. Therefore, contraction of these muscles during labor inhibits the natural efforts of the longitudinal muscles to enlarge the cervix to expel the baby.

This combination of pain and fear results in a vicious cycle. The fear causes the pain and the pain intensifies the fear. This in turn increases the tension. Use of an anesthetic, luckily, permits us to interrupt this cycle. But we must do more than use drugs to solve the problem.

We've got to replace ignorance and fear of childbirth with understanding and confidence. If you are expecting a baby, have your physician explain the entire mechanism of delivery. Also, seek his advice about personal hygiene and physical fitness. Then follow his advice.

And, above all, don't worry about that approaching blessed event. Women have been having babies, you know, for a long, long time.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. O.M.: I have been told I will have twins next month. Can I breast-feed both babies? Answer: Yes, there should be no reason why you cannot breast-feed both babies.

A New City

(Ottawa Citizen)

As of January 1, Canada has a new city. It comes into being on the west coast of Newfoundland and it is the result of the welding together of four separate communities, all dependent on the pulp and paper industry, into one municipal administration. The name of this new city will already be familiar to most Canadians—Corner Brook. It is pleasant to know that it hasn't acquired a more pretentious label along with cityhood.

Although this region has been expanding quite rapidly in recent years, the population of enlarged Corner Brook is no more than 20,000. But if Newfoundland is given every opportunity to share in the national development there seems no reason why Corner Brook should flourish, and a number of other centers as well. This is one of the matters under review by the Gordon commission on Canada's economic prospects as it makes its broad survey of the nation.

The Age Old Story

Remember the word that I said unto you, "The servant is not greater than his Lord."

The small garden patches cleared in the forest show the lack of steel tools, and tree stumps have a chewed off appearance caused by the thousands of blows from the Dumas' small stone axes which are used to fell trees.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

In a Montreal court a woman struck and injured by an automobile lost a suit for damages because she had changed her mind and direction and stepped in front of the car. The operator of the vehicle must exercise every possible precaution, but the pedestrian too has responsibilities. —Ottawa Journal.

Why does a ski slice on snow? Dr. F. P. Bowden, reader in physical chemistry at Cambridge University and an enthusiastic skier, has been making some experiments. Skis move forward on the thin film of water formed when friction makes the snow melt. The wax or lacquer with which skis are treated helps to produce the right kind of friction.

Many people take pleasure in laying out some kind of feed for the birds during winter, but it may not occur to them that birds need water also. They are as well as hungry, and saucer some other dish of water should supplement the food. Only those who give food to the little feathered creatures who bravely stay here all winter know the satisfaction of seeing them flutter down in an instant and warm over the bread or grain, twittering and chattering their gratitude. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

To those who live in Labrador we have a clear and direct obligation. They are citizens of Newfoundland. They must have equal services and economic protection or aid. But we do not have people to worry about in the hinterland of Labrador and there the question is whether the creation of new wealth can benefit us most through the establishment of Newfoundland colonies in these areas or the use of revenues derived from new industries for the purpose of strengthening the economy of the island of Newfoundland. —St. John's News.

In allowing both the S and the K forms (for pronouncing Celtic), the dictionary goes on to state the latter is especially British. Which y is so, but our own recollections run to the contrary. Invariably Celtic, as opposed to Keltic, was used, as we remember, in the case of the well known football club at Parkhead, in Glasgow's east end, it is the Celtic, with the individual players Celts. That is what their supporters call them. What other clubs and fans backing them might say is a quite different matter having no place in this comment. —Quebec Chronicle Telegraph.

Colchester County Magistrate Truro finally has got rid of more than two tons of canned fish that the institution's dietitians and patients alike found unpalatable. This seems to be stating the situation mildly. The fish, 4,700 pounds of a surplus bought by the Canadian Government, arrived at the hospital without advance notice, six years ago. A hospital commission offer to sell drew no buyers. The problem of disposal was solved the other day when the commissioners presented a milk rancher at Stewiacke. The response of the milk to this offering has gone unrecorded. —Sydney Post Record.

Judicial shock treatments in the form of short jail sentences instead of fines for bad drivers, is contemplated in Ontario, according to the Toronto Globe and Mail. The newspaper says that the province's attorney-general's office is studying a report on the Los Angeles traffic safety courts where judges adopted the slogan: "You can't buy bad driving in Los Angeles," and handed out three-day jail sentences in lieu of fines. —Sydney Post-Record.

Serious illness in a family vein, often involves substantial outlay for equipment, service and medicine in addition to those paid to the doctor. Specifically mentioned in the tax Act, there are, for example, expensive drugs usually secured from a doctor nurse. If we agree as the income tax authorities some time ago agreed, that expenses for sickness are special considerations, then all expenses, not just some of them, should be eligible. —Financial Post.

In a storm on the open Prairies, man is completely helpless, without his horse. He has no sense of direction, no homing instinct. At least one life was lost in the most recent storm through the victim losing his way between the house and the barn. But the old-timers had a safe guide to rely on—their horse. Give the saddle-horse rein, or tie the team's lines to the sleigh-box and war. No matter how black the night, how wild the storm, how cold the wind, how long the distance, the horse will plod forward in his own steady way right to the barn door and safe harbor. —Calgary Altar.

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