

The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
MONDAY, FEB. 27, 1956

Sketch Of Causeway

Attention is called to the sketch of Northumberland Strait and proposed causeway, prepared by the engineer who designed the Canso causeway, which was tabled in the Legislature on Friday by Premier Matheson in the course of his speech on the Draft Address, and which we reproduce in today's issue on page eleven. Members of the House have been requested to study this sketch carefully, and we believe it will be of great interest to all our readers.

As the Premier emphasized, a complete survey of all the problems bearing upon the project will be required before any action can be expected in the way of construction. The Federal Department of Public Works has already been asked to make this investigation. In the meantime, the information given by the Premier will enable members of the Legislature to discuss this issue when it comes before them in resolution form, with some knowledge of what they are talking about.

Greeks Prospects

The only comfort that the pro-Western Premier of Greece, Constantine Karamanlis, can take from the recent election is that he won it—by an extremely small and unimpressive majority. He has little assurance that he will be able to form a stable government, and none at all that he will be able to persuade the new parliament to honour the country's commitments to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and stay on cooperative terms with the Western powers. In fact, his victory rests on very flimsy props. While he has a majority in parliament, his popular support is considerably less than that given to his 7-party opponents. This means, of course, that he will have to go slowly in integrating Greece with the Western bloc if he hopes to stay in office. It means, too, that the Communist Party in Greece, as in France, will be in a position of great influence; so much so that the success or failure of the new government will depend pretty much on what the Communist members of parliament do or fail to do in support of specific government measures.

This is the second European election in a month which has resulted in definite gains for the Communists. In France, they can be expected to make common cause, for the purpose of embarrassing the government, with the Poujadists, who, if they can be classified at all, are on the other end of the totalitarian conspiracy. In Greece they are allied for the same purpose with other groups whose main objective is the isolation of the country from Western influence. This, apparently, is in line with the recent dictum from the Kremlin in the effect that any course that works against the West is beneficial to Moscow, even though it might mean a temporary alliance with fascism, once regarded as Communism's worst foe.

Attack On Inflation

One fairly plausible inference to be seen in the British Government's decision to add a further measure of austerity to the economic life of the nation, in an all-out attempt to keep the inflationary trend from getting out of hand, is that Prime Minister Eden feels his government is reasonably secure and in a position to ward off opposition lack of confidence votes for some time to come. Lacking that assurance, he surely would not have caused the price of bread and milk to go up, for no other action by any government—in Britain or anywhere else—would be as likely to create adverse public opinion. In itself it is a source of grave political unrest; added to widespread criticism of the government for its alleged lack of leadership in domestic affairs, there is no gauging its possible repercussions. In itself, the government believes

it can survive them, however irritating they may turn out to be.

It could be said, of course, and it must be said, that the new austerity measures indicate a boldness on the part of the government that even its most bitter critics must perform admire, however much they may deplore the direction it has taken. The fact of the matter is that Britain's financial position is far from satisfactory—so far, indeed, that nothing but the boldest, and probably most unpopular, corrective methods are capable of making any improvement in it. In January, for instance, imports rose to \$970 million, or about \$208 million more than the month's exports. This represents a deficit of approximately \$6 million higher than the monthly average last year. To a country that depends on its export trade to such an extent as Britain does, these figures have a most disquieting significance.

Supercilious Diagnosis

We are a strange people in these Atlantic Provinces, in the opinion of Miriam Chapin, an American journalist who has published a book about us under the title "Atlantic Canada," recently published by the Ryerson Press, Toronto. "We hope you like it," says the publisher's note in the review copy received. Well, we don't exactly, though there is much in Miss Chapin's caustic comments which may be true, or partly true. She finds us in an ailing condition, and brusquely prescribes remedies to remove our "resentful inferiority" and put us on the way to self-sufficiency. What is lacking is any real sympathy with our case, or understanding of what she is writing about.

We Prince Edward Islanders are, in the author's opinion, "something of a political absurdity." Because we are so small in population, "not much bigger than some Montreal ridings," she cannot understand why we should be a province at all. Our insistence on bearing the burden of a provincial government "is, to the casual eye, supererogatory and sinfully wasteful." She finds life here pretty dull: "the Island's feud with the Railway is one of the few sources of excitement." We have come through the years "pretty much an appendage of Ottawa, dependent on Federal handouts." Even to our tourist attractions the lady is somewhat allergic: "An Eden of the North Atlantic, you say, Jerusalem the Golden, with milk and honey blest. Yet who wants to live in Eden?" And so on.

Perhaps we have quoted more than enough for our readers' taste. There are some kind as well as cutting comments in the book, but it would take a volume equally large to answer the superficial criticisms. It is hardly worth separating the wheat from the chaff, where there is so much of the latter commodity on every page.

Y.M.C.A. Campaign

An objective of \$17,500 has been set by the Charlottetown Y.M.C.A. in its fund raising campaign for youth training this year. It costs approximately \$70 per member to keep up the facilities which are provided, and there is urgent need for more trained leadership. Six clubs affiliated with the "Y" are at present in operation, and an increasing-wide field is being covered in community activities, including two periods per week in juvenile, junior and intermediate classes and Christian youth gatherings on Sunday evening. In its century of operation the organization has been of great service to the city and Province, and it is expanding continually to keep abreast with present day requirements.

EDITORIAL NOTES

From now on, most Europeans are not going to agree with the proposition that the Atlantic climate is warming up. From Scandinavia to Greece this has been the worst winter in 200 years. So say the weather experts.

A United States Senate Committee is considering a bill to prohibit interstate liquor advertising. The deliberations are a result of widespread complaints that liquor manufacturers are trying to glamorize drinking to children who watch television. This has been denied by brewery spokesmen who call the proposed legislation an attack on "free speech." The feeling persists, however, and is growing.



HISTORY TO REPEAT ITSELF

Scrolls Stir Controversy

John Hillaby in the New York Times

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.

SCHOOL UNIT NO. 1

Sir.—The Saturday issue of The Guardian carried an announcement regarding construction of two new schools in School Unit No. 1.

The announcement stated that the resolution to construct these two new schools was passed on Friday night, Feb. 24th. This is not correct.

Here are some of the facts concerning this matter.

The board of trustees of School Unit No. 1 met in its entirety on Jan. 11th, 1956 and after a prolonged argument a resolution was passed to build two new schools.

Four of the elected trustees supported the resolution while the remaining four elected trustees for various reasons did not support this motion.

The Government appointed chairman cast his ballot in favour of the building program.

The writer realizes that extra classroom accommodation will be required in Sept. 1956.

The writer opposes any new construction projects until it is known whether or not the wishes of the people as expressed in the Plebiscite held in the spring of 1955 are fulfilled, or until the recommendations of the Darby Commission with regard to additional trustees and financial assistance are completed.

The writer also feels that the ratepayer engaged in agriculture is paying more than his just share of the educational costs, due to the fact that in addition to the taxes levied on his house and farm buildings he must also pay a tax on his land, in effect a tax on his job.

When this tax inequality is corrected it may be possible to obtain some degree of harmony within this fiasco called School Unit No. 1.

I am, Sir, etc.,
Winnifred and East Royalty.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(February 27, 1931)

After the hardest fight against snow since 1923, communications have again been established over the Inland Division of the C. N. R. All rail traffic was halted for three days. At twelve o'clock last night the lines were opened between Charlottetown, Summerside and Borden and the first train from the mainland since four days ago arrived in the city at two o'clock this morning.

Competition of Danish bacon has been abruptly terminated by Order in Council. An embargo has been placed on pork products entering Canada from countries where foot and mouth disease has occurred in the past twelve months. Since Denmark is never entirely free of the disease, the order amounts to a permanent ban.

TEN YEARS AGO

(February 27, 1946)
An increase of \$552,814 in liabilities and a deficit on current account of \$248,487 are shown in the Public Accounts of the Province for the year ending March 31, 1945. The accounts tabled in the Legislature today, showed a net funded debt of \$8,089,027 at March 31 last, an increase of \$164,696 since March 31, 1944.

That useful marine plant, eel grass, is making a comeback on the Atlantic coast. Reports to the Dominion Department of Fisheries from its local officers are to the effect that the eel grass is at last showing signs of recovery from the mysterious disease which virtually wiped it out some years ago. In P.E.I. there is general improvement in the growth and the grass appears to be of a harder variety than former years.

GREAT PROJECTS

India's second five-year plan winding up in 1951 includes an estimate of \$1,550,000,000 for power and irrigation.

A religious controversy is already smoldering over various interpretations placed on a vast library of ancient documents known collectively as the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Unless scholars, particularly those in Britain and France avoid age-old doctrinal disputes in their interim announcements about them, the controversy will catch fire before the documents are fully deciphered.

The scrolls are texts of the Old Testament and other religious works written on sheep and goatskins during the first or second centuries B.C. This means that biblical documents probably a thousand years older than the earliest important manuscript previously known.

DISCOVERED BY BOY
The first of them were discovered in 1947 by a Bedouin shepherd boy in a cliff cave at Qumran on the western shore of the Dead Sea. Not suspecting that he had stumbled across the text of Isaiah, but thinking the linen-wrapped bundle to be valuable, the boy sold it through intermediaries to the man to whom scholars will be forever in debt: the Syrian Metropolitan Samuel at the monastery of Saint Mark in Old Jerusalem.

Despite Jewish-Arab rioting around him, the Metropolitan, puzzled but ever curious, managed eventually to interest scholars in the lone text and thereby precipitated a search that led to the discovery of a fabulous collection of documents.

In adjacent cliff caves were found hundreds of others scrolls, some perfect, some reduced by the weather to tens of thousands of fragments. Some had to be purchased at an agreed price of one pound sterling per square centimeter. Many had been pillaged and sold, occasionally piece by piece, to dealers who scrambled for the scrolls when the news got around that they were valuable.

CONTROVERSY STARTED
Controversy began when reproductions of the scrolls were sold to universities, and paleographers all over the world began both to decipher and interpret at least part of the text. The scrolls are a number of other religious writings. As one biblical scholar here expressed it: "Never before have we had such a wealth of documentation."

It soon became clear that present-day versions of the Bible, discovered by the scrolls, were not the same as those of the past.

Senator Powers' Speech

(The Letter Review)

THE MAIDEN SPEECH in Red Chamber of Senator Charles Gavagan Power is of high order which Canadians have come to expect of one who ranks among the great statesmen and parliamentarians of the day. His philosophy of politics, which he was careful to address to those who are still engaged in hurly-burly of party life, is refreshing, timely and instructive.

Senator Power shares with many of his fellow-citizens genuine concern about growing power of the executive.

Ample and disquieting evidence of expediency taking the place of principle in the affairs of Parliament is available to make meaningful Senator Power's assertion that "I cannot bring myself to believe in and support a tenet which practice and usage may elevate into a doctrine—that of the infallibility of the cabinet."

Contrast senator Power's wisdom, which marks him, in Winston Churchill's words, as a true "child of Parliament," with a statement attributed to Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe at recent Liberal dinner in his honor, where he is reported to have told backbenchers that when the Prime Minister had decided on a course of action, it should be accepted by all true Liberals whether they agreed with it or not. Once the party line was laid down, "I don't care whether you are a member of the House of Commons or the Senate, that line should be adhered to."

Mr. Howe's remarks suggest beyond shadow of doubt that he is a devotee of the doctrine of the divine right of kings.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

PACIFIERS OFTEN HELP PREVENT THUMB-SUCKING

More and more doctors are condemning the use of pacifiers for children.

For years, many medical men have advised against their use on the grounds they may be habit-forming and tend to increase thumb-sucking. But a great number of doctors now disagree.

A sucking reflex is present in all infants. They get their first nourishment by sucking. For many children, it is also a source of pleasure since it helps them to relax.

This urge to suck is usually satisfied with the thumb. By the time a baby reaches the age of three months, his coordination is good enough to make sucking a purposeful act.

If thumb-sucking becomes a habit, as it frequently does, it sometimes continues for several years. Any parent who has tried to break his youngster of this habit knows what a job it is.

PACIFIERS HELP IT

Dr. Louis F. Rittelmeyer, Jr. of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, suggests that pacifiers can help prevent thumb-sucking.

He cites tests conducted by the college's Family Care Program to support his contention. In three per cent of the cases, did the pacifier fail to prevent thumb-sucking.

One of the chief values the pacifier offers is a preventative of thumb-sucking, he says, is that it is seldom difficult to discard.

TO BREAK HABIT

While a thumb is always available at the flick of a wrist, a pacifier is not. If the temptation is more than an arm's length away, Dr. Rittelmeyer says, a habit is more easily broken.

Ordinarily, he says, children give up a pacifier voluntarily before the age of 2. Any time after the second birthday, he points out, parents usually can "lose" the pacifier without fear of development of thumb-sucking.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

J. S. M.: I awake during the night with numbness in my hands and finger tips. I also have soreness in the arms and shoulders. Would the numbness be caused by rheumatism or is it due to poor circulation?

Answer: It is impossible to tell what disturbance is causing the numbness in your hands and fingers and shoulders. This might be due to a circulatory disturbance, to arthritis, or to some nervous disorder.

Thorough study by your physician is needed to find the cause.

The Poets Corner

PIONEER HOME

The old house stands against the sky
As for this many a year,
On windy upland bare and high—
No other dwelling near.

Three ragged trees, a low stone wall,
A lilac bush or two,
A rambler rose, and that is all—
Except the open view.

Surely the ones whose eyes were fed
On such far space and light
Must have lived greatly, free of dread,
And unafraid of night.

—Nora B. Cunningham

The Age Old Story

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith

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Notes By The Way

Nowadays when you tell someone he looks like a million dollars it is necessary to specify whether before or after taxes.

Kitchener Waterloo Record.

At one London club the host is handed a menu which lists each item and its price. His guest is given the same list, only there are no prices on the guest's menu.—Atlantic Monthly.

In Paris thieves have stolen a scientist's recording of the noises made by a parasite which attacks grapes. The state of juke-box music being what it is, they may have a hit on their hands.—Edmonton Journal.

Let the hat put in an appearance and he's greeted with screams and rushing about. "Look out for your hair!" is what he hears. If the little brown hat got caught in the average hairdo, he'd probably die of fright. But nobody believes this. So from generation to generation this innocent little country citizen is maligned and hated.

Neither does the hat carry fleas and bedbugs. Actually, he is probably the cleanest animal this side of man.—American Mercury.

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Those who have an eye for such trivia of folkways as the ways schoolgirls carry their books, must have noticed they are using both arms to hold their books tight up against their stomachs as they walk along the streets. Formerly girls used book bags they slung over their shoulders by a strap, or bags they held in one hand like satchels. (Boys usually had leather or web book straps which they cinched up tight around such books as they had to take home at night.)

Nowadays the female custom is universal to tote books in the most awkward manner possible.—Owen Sound Sun-Times.

The Naval Research establishment at Dartmouth, N.S., will release old beer bottles, with notes in them, to gather information on ocean currents "far from home". The bottles will contain and ballast for easy floating, be equipped with small fins, and in each there will be a message written on a postcard to attract attention. But suppose some of the bottles float toward Russian territory. Is not Canada liable to be charged with the aggressive and provocative use of old beer bottles. Perhaps Russia will protest that the postcards are propagandized, or the bottles themselves landing craft for some of those diminutive saucer men.—Hamilton Spectator.

Science has now produced a type of hen which has no feathers. Having surprised some hens in a state of undress, we are still strongly in favor of the feathered kind.—Peterborough Examiner.

Don't let anyone hand you that common misquotation from Ralph Waldo Emerson about consistency being the hobgoblin of little minds. Emerson said "a foolish consistency". He was being contemptuous of men who won't admit a change of mind—not excusing those who profess one attitude and practice another.—Milwaukee Journal.

The only good thing about the duration of it is that another strike at General Motors is unlikely for several years. We hope the same applies to Ford and Chrysler. After this experience both unions and companies surely should be determined to avoid a repetition. They couldn't possibly find a harder way of settling differences.—Windsor Star.

Some 61 per cent of French students in secondary schools have chosen English as the foreign language they prefer to learn, according to the latest statistics. Only 21 per cent elected German, nearly 12 per cent Spanish, 5 per cent Italian, and 2 per cent Russian. Back in 1914, the outlook in the world must have seemed different to French students, for then 50 per cent elected German, 42 per cent English, 3 per cent Spanish, and 2 per cent Italian.—France Actuelle.

While we're on city council affairs the thought comes to mind that there is 42 days old and there hasn't been a word about fluoridation of city water supplies. It was a proved by vote in December, remember? We do recall some mention of changes at the pump-house which would involve fluoridating equipment but council has not made anything definite and fluoridating equipment hasn't been ordered. Somebody will probably criticize us for being too suspicious, but we can't help wondering if somebody's stalling.—North Bay Nugget.

CLOUDS OVER MONACO

There are sad looks and gloomy faces in the tiny principality of Monaco. A haunting fear grips the once carefree citizens. Read all about this little-known situation as told by Staff Writer Robert McKeown in The Standard this week.

Get The Standard—on sale now, complete with magazine, 12-page novel and 20 pages of comics. Only 10 cents.

The Standard ON SALE NOW

How to KEEP FIT after 50

In the old days fifty seemed the signal to slow down—take things easy—watch your diet—get more rest. It's still good advice. But these days you can face fifty with many interesting and active years ahead, —active, that is, if you can avoid backache and the "fired-out" feeling, due to kidney and bladder disorders, that often develop around that age. For more than 60 years Dodd's Kidney Pills have been helping men and women of all ages to keep kidneys and bladder in good order, —helping them to feel better, to work better, and get more fun out of life. If you are approaching fifty, or past it, Dodd's Kidney Pills may help you, too. You can depend on Dodd's.

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