The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"

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

PAGE 4 MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1956

Accidents On The Farm

A study of farm accidents made recently by the American Medical Association, and distributed in this country by the Health League of Canada, indicates that fatigue is a common cause of mechanical mishaps. When farmers used horses the animals had to be rested from time to time, and farmers could rest with them. But tractors do not require a rest, and farmers tend to work until they become over-tired and prone to accidents. Partly for this reason, the farm accident rate in the United States is 61.7 per 100,000. Canada has a similar rate.

The solution, notes an exchange, lies in persuading farmers to take regular rest periods, if only for a few minutes. But this may be easier said than done. The general shortage of farm labor places a heavy burden on the farmers themselves. In certain seasons farmers feel they must work almost beyond the limit of endurance, especially after a late spring when they must get their crops in, or during a cool fall in order to avoid frost damage. This much granted, it is still better to be, say, an hour behind in the day's work than to have a serious, perhaps fatal accident. It seems to be largely a problem of persuasion, as it has been with motorists who drive to the point of fatigue.

A Timely Reminder

Great pressure is being brought to bear on educational authorities to stress training in the scientific and vocational fields to the detriment of the liberal arts. And there is, of course, a great need for specialists in these fields and it will become greater as time goes on and the new atomic-powered machine is firmly established. Yet, it must not be forgotten that the fundamental struggle in which the whole world is involved today is a struggle for men's minds; and that fact would seem to call for more philosophical training of the right sort rather than less if Western civilization is to hold its own against the pressure of Soviet-dominated materialism.

A timely reminder of what happens when education is directed solely or to an exaggerated degree towards utilitarian ends was given by Dr. John Baillie, well known Scottish theologian, in a recent address at Princeton University. He recalled that before World War One German schools led the world in every department of scientific learning but at the same time they had reached a condition of "spiritual neutrality". This, in turn, had created a vacuum in German intellectual life that was filled by the first "robust philosophy" that came along—National Socialism. He went on to say that another "robust totalitarian philosophy" stands ready to fill new intellectual vacuums that are being created by the decline in emphasis on spiritual things in modern educational trends.

It certainly would be a tragedy if in our eagerness to produce more and more highly trained technicians we were to neglect the philosophical values which alone can make modern technology a power for good in the world.

Anti-Americanism

A charge that is being repeated over and over again by Democratic orators in the current election campaign is that under the Eisenhower administration the United States is fast losing its place of leadership among free world nations. Much of this criticism, of course, can be put down to the customary rough and tumble of political warfare. But not all of it. In fact, it is doubtful whether American prestige in Europe had ever been as low as it is at the present time, certainly not since the end of World War Two. In Britain and France dissatisfaction with United States policy with regard to the Suez problem has risen to the point where seasoned American newspaper correspondents are sending back reports of growing "anti-Americanism"; while in several British papers, ordinarily friendly to the United States, Secretary of State Dulles is being caricatured as a man who does not know his mind from one day to another.

In West Germany government officials are making no secret of their fears that the United States is seriously considering reducing the number of its forces in Europe and may even be approaching a lukewarm viewpoint in the matter of German reunification. Both fears are probably groundless, but it is clear that recent reassurances given by American officials have done little to dispel them.

As for United States' economic policies they are faring no better than the political ones. All over Europe, in Japan, and indeed in practically every country that has dealings with the United States, American import tariffs are regarded with suspicion and, in some cases, with downright repugnance. This is not a happy situation. Unless mended soon, it will seriously threaten the unity of free nations on which so much depends in these troublous days.

New Strength For Eden

Prime Minister Eden has reason to feel happy over the treatment accorded him at the Conservative Party's annual conference in Llandudno, Wales. The general expectation was that he would come in for sharp criticism from the rank and file of the party on his handling of the Suez crisis. There was a widespread rumour that, except for a handful of the so-called "Suez rebels", who have maintained all along that British troops should never have been withdrawn from the Suez area, Eden's original "tough policy" with Egypt did not reflect general Conservative thinking. The enthusiastic and almost unanimous vote of confidence Sir Anthony received from the conference has set that rumour at rest and strengthened the Government for whatever action may be necessary in the future.

It is worth noting, too, that British press comment has been more favourable to Sir Anthony in recent days and that even among Labour Party leaders there has been a softening of criticism. This, in large measure, resulted from the wavering diplomacy of Secretary of State Dulles who, without doubt, is a very unpopular man in Britain at this moment. Now that the British people are convinced that no tangible help can be expected from the United States in the Suez crisis, they are taking a second look at Eden's original plan and finding it more reasonable than it appeared at the beginning. In other words, following a well established tradition they are closing ranks in the face of a crisis that must be solved — peacefully if possible, otherwise if necessary—by themselves and their steadfast allies, the French.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A psychiatrist says that overeating is linked with "psychological factors." That may be. What everyone knows is that it is definitely linked with too good an appetite.

• • •

From Muskegon, Mich., comes word that of 19 automobile drivers arrested for speeding 16 were women. This may have surprised the police, but most male drivers will accept the implication as a matter of course.

• • •

This year Americans will drink 86 million barrels of beer, according to a calculation made by experts in such matters. It sounds like a lot of beer, and it is. Nevertheless, it is 2 million barrels less than the amount imbibed in 1948, although the population now is of course much bigger than it was then.

• • •

Bulls are like people in the sense that they differ from one another in temperament. In Paris one wandered into a china shop and did everything expected of it by breaking dishes all over the place and causing general havoc. In an English town at about the same time one visited the same kind of shop and behaved most peaceably.

HOPE FOR THE HOUSE HUNTER

Acheson Sounds Warning

From an address by Dean Acheson, former U. S. Secretary of State, before the Western Suburban Democratic Club of Maryland.

To meet this danger (war) we are doing so little that we must bluster and bluff, then scuttle and run, as was so well demonstrated in connection with Indochina.

Instead of political understanding and sensitivity regarding the concerns of those beyond our borders, a moralistic and didactic harshness spoke to our allies of agonizing reappraisal of our policies toward them. And the uncommitted countries, interested in independence and development, were presented with policies of military and increased military expenditures in a controversy which many of them thought was not theirs. This seemed to subordinate their interests to Western interests (against Sino-Soviet interests) in a manner reminiscent of the hated period of colonialism.

At the same time economic and technical aid was curtailed; and liberal commercial policy under the anesthetic of the Randall Commission entered upon four years of somnolence. Relations with Japan, Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa have in all cases become more distant, in many cases strained and in some the Arab countries, practically hostile.

SCARED TO DEATH

Our closest friends and allies we scared to death—with the fraudulent and provocative talk of unleashing Chiang Kaishek with flamboyantly conducted and publicized nuclear tests, with the announcement of the new massive retaliation policy in which we seemed to be ready to produce the day of Armageddon at a place of "our choosing"; with loud internal debates as to whether we would do this over Indo-china or Quemoy or Matsu, without much regard to anyone else; with the interviews on the "necessary art" of going to the brink of war, and so on. We seemed to be playing Russian roulette with an atomic pistol which would destroy ourselves and everyone else, too.

Through this mile-wide hole in the line the Russians scored again and again with the ball carried by the dove of peace.

President Eisenhower, it is quite true, at Geneva made a notable impression on the world as a man sincerely desirous of avoiding nuclear war and maintaining peace. But it is only fair to add that the importance of this personal achievement came from the necessity of overcoming the bellicose impression given the world by his colleagues in the administration.

RUSSIA AND GERMANY

It might be noted also that the effort seemed to so exhaust the American representatives that, in hailing Geneva as a great success, they failed to observe that the Russians had flatly refused, as they still do, to permit the unification of Germany, except on Russian terms.

The plain, unpalatable and unhappy fact is that in the past four years our country, its friends and allies, have lost ground in the world.

It would be quite wrong and unfair to lay all this administration. Contrary to its dogmas, our country possesses limited power in a definite world. But the administration has used our power badly, and much of our power—that of leadership for those values for which our country has been known throughout the world and throughout our history—it has hardly used at all. Its members, including the president-candidate himself—if I may fall back on Shakespeare—"Speak of peace, while covert enmity, under the smile of safety, wounds the world".

The elements of peace, which shall be more than the absence of war, have not yet appeared through the frozen earth of the cold war; they may be tender shoots of difficult years. If we are to nourish them and save them from blighting frost there must be some changes in our husbandry.

FRESH RELATIONS

First, we must renew and refresh our relations with our friends and allies, so that again the once potent alliances of the free world can act in concert rather than retreat in confusion. This we can do only if we believe profoundly that our need for these friends is as great as theirs for use; and that confidence in us can come only from a re-established confidence in the wisdom of our leadership, our policies and our determination and ability to carry out our policies. The Republican leadership has lost its way here because it has not believed in this sole path to confidence and trust and has not followed it.

Next, it is essential to remove the causes which push the uncommitted nations to distrust and hostility toward us and to closer economic and political relations with Communist states, culminating, as Mr. Malik of Lebanon has pointed out, in the achievement by the Soviet Union of that foothold in the Middle East for which Russia had striven for centuries.

Nature's Sleepyheads

National Geographic Society

As the days grow chilly, a mysterious force within certain creatures seems to say: "Well, it's just about time to go underground for a good long rest."

The big sleep—a state of suspended animation—is nature's way of tiding vulnerable animals over the lean cold days of winter, the National Geographic Society says. Men, who lengthen their own days with artificial light and often appear bent on crowding 13 months into each year, call it hibernation. But they do not know how it happens.

NATURE BANKS ITS FIRES

Take the woodchuck. Having made a storage locker of its body, the rodent stows away a snack of green fodder on the slim chance it may wake up hungry before spring. Then the drowsy animal seals its burrow, rolls into a furry ball, and goes into a trance. Pulse and breathing approach the vanishing point. Seemingly dead, the woodchuch sleeps month after month like a slow-burning lamp that needs almost no fuel.

Ground squirrels, hedgehogs, badgers, bats, and dormice also find cozy hideaways for the winter, as do bears, snakes, turtles, frogs, spiders, mosquitoes, crayfish, snails, and some worms.

Some of nature's sleepyheads take astonishingly long naps. One classic case confounded the British Museum. Four years after the presumably empty shell of an Egyptian desert snail was mounted on a card, the snail crawled out, hungry but none the worse for wear.

Few of the sleepyheads are true hibernators. Bears, for instance, sleep in a normal state in dark snug dens, consuming the fat stored up in their bodies during a summer eating spree. Mother bear gives birth to cubs during the twilight sleep.

True hibernators, a small group of northern mammals, undergo radical physical changes that are cease. So low is the flame of life baffling. Body functions virtually that a hedgehog survived a 22½-minute-long dunning in water. Woodchucks and bats, sleeping through laboragory tests, have lived for four hours in deadly carbon dioxide.

Significantly, the hibernators seem to have trouble maintaining stable body heat even in summer. In hibernation they become, in effect, cold-blooded creatures. Their body temperatures remain only a few degrees above that of the surrounding air, the two rising and falling together. As a safeguard, nature provides a built-in thermostat that awakens the unconscious animal if freezing should threaten.

CLUES TO THE RIDDLE

Now and then, researchers find clues to the riddle of hibernation. Two scientists at the University of Wisconsin have found that hibernators have hyper-irritable hearts. This condition sets the heart throbbing at the slightest stimulus and keeps it going when the body heat drops to a level that no other animal could long withstand.

The big sleep comes naturally—an instinctive preparation for hard times rather than an emergency retreat. Some animals in captivity have improvised a den of sorts and sounded taps for themselves at the proper time, though caged in pleasant quarters with tempting food at their noses.

Birds don't hibernate, as a rule. In 1946, however, biologist Edmund C. Jaeger found a poorwill ensconced in a rock cleft in California's Chuckwalla Mountains. The sleeping bird was watched through four winters in its rocky nest.

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.

PHONETIC SPELLING

Sir,—The mounting costs of education is a serious problem facing Boards of Education every where. How can these costs be met without breaking the tax payers' back?

No community can afford to leave its children without an education. However our communities are faced with the dilemma of the necessary education against the mounting costs of education. We cannot afford to have our School teachers underpaid and unprepared to teach our children. Properly paid and properly trained teachers will have the inspiration to exert every effort and to explore every avenue to help them educate our children in the shortest possible time. The teachers alone cannot solve this problem. The solution is a matter of co-operation of the general public, the teachers and the educational authorities.

Let members of the community who may have ideas, which might be helpful in the solution of this problem, come forth with the ideas so that the public might discuss them. I am sure, our daily news papers will be ready to help with such public discussions.

There is one avenue which, if explored, promises to be of help in reducing the costs of education and in holding them at an even keel. This avenue is the adoption of simplified spelling or phonetic spelling. May I be permitted to quote the following statement made by an outstanding educator the late Professor Max Mueller of Oxford University:

"It may be useful, however, to quote the testimonials of a few practical men in order to show that this system (the present system of spelling) has really become one of the greatest national misfortunes swallowing up millions of money every year and blighting all attempts at national education.

"I mean the misery endured by millions of children at school, who might learn in one year, and with real advantage to themselves what they now require four or five years to learn, and seldom succeed in learning."

I am, Sir, etc,
KYRIL EVANS
98 Tuxedo Ave. South, Hamilton, Ontario.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(October 15, 1931)

One of the busiest establishments in Charlottetown in this time of depression is the woolen mills of Mr. William Landrigan, corner of Dorchester and Queen Streets. The wool is sent to the mill by the customers and is returned in the form of finished blankets.

The S.S. Lizbeth, of British registry, came into port but owing to heavy seas it was impossible to dock. The cargo she will load will consist of barrels and bags of potatoes which were landed at the frost-proof house by train and also by teams during the past few days. Around seventy-five longshoremen will be employed at the loading.

TEN YEARS AGO
(October 15, 1946)

Three Senators and seven members of the House of Commons, comprising the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs, will arrive in Charlottetown Wednesday evening, October 23. The commission was appointed at the last session of the Dominion Parliament and will visit every province in Canada to study the care of Indians on the various reservations.

Mr. Stewart Robinson died in the Western Hospital, Alberton, on Sunday night from burns sustained in a fire which destroyed his home at Greenmount in the early hours on Friday morning and forced the other occupants to escape in their night clothes. Most of them suffered minor burns.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

INEXPENSIVE. DENTIFRICE CAN BE MADE AT HOME

You don't have to spend a lot of money to get a good dentifrice or mouth wash. In fact, you can make both of them yourself if you desire.

Most dentifrices are based on two inexpensive ingredients—an abrasive, such as chalk, and a detergent.

Generally, I think you'll find toothpastes which you buy in metal tubes and tooth powders are more effective than the ordinary liquid teeth cleansers. Liquids usually just aren't abrasive.

PREVENTIVE SUBSTANCES

Now I know you've read a lot about dentifrices containing penicillin, ammonium or other preventive substances. These substances may help reduce tooth decay in certain cases. Studies are still being made to determine just how much value they have.

But you can make a good dentifrice right at home in a matter of minutes.

Just mix one part of table salt with two parts of baking soda. If you want, you can add a drop of oil of peppermint to flavor the mixture.

Even if you think it's too much trouble to mix your own dentifrice when so many good commercial products are readily available, it might be a good idea to remember how it's done just in case your supply runs out some day.

What about mouth washes?

The American Dental Association's Council on Dental Therapeutics says that general use of mouth washes helps remove food and debris, but that's about all.

FOOD PARTICLES

Actually, swishing a little liquid around in your mouth after eating and after brushing your teeth will help remove many of the food particles lodged on and between the teeth.

You can make your own mouth wash by dissolving two teaspoons of ordinary salt in a quart of water. As another cleansing wash or gargle you can even use suds from a bland neutral soap.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

B.F.: Can pregnancy cause a loss of hearing?

Answer: No, it is unlikely that pregnancy would have any effect on hearing.

NOTES BY THE WAY

There is a congressional legend about the newly elected U.S. congressman who, in his maiden speech on the floor of the house, said: "As Daniel Webster makes clear in his famous dictionary. . ." He was interrrupted from the floor by a cry of "Noah Webster wrote the dictionary." "Noah nothing," replied the speaker, "Noah built the ark!"Ottawa Journal

Anything that can be done to make the nursing profession more attractive will be a boon to humanity at large. The girls in training have been relieved of some of the heavier, more unpleasant duties but the relief, for the most part, has been very slight. A better "financial deal" should be arranged from training days on. Unfortunately few hospitals are in a financial position to do much about it.—Owen Sound Sun-Times

Shaving has become entirely secondary to hair cutting. In fact one seldom sees a man getting a shave in a barber shop these days. The safety razor, and more recently, the electric shavers have made barber shop shaving unpopular though many will recall the delights and refreshment, actual luxury of lying back in the well cushioned chair and receiving the almost loving attention of a skilled barber. Though many have been the jokes about barber shop nicks and cuts, in actuality the operation was a most soothing one. The application of hot, warm and finally cold towels was in itself a treat a few bother to five themselves in the privacy of their own bathroom. —Owen Sound Times-Review

Quebec Provincial Liberals have a new leader. The ex-leadres are expected soon to set up an old boy's association.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle

Life in a bush camp once considered as being a little too rough for a timid fellow, has been streamlined to some extent. Members of camp staffs enjoy the best of meals planned by camp cooks who have been trained for the business. Lumbermen also enjoy weekness. Lumpbermen also enjoy weekly entertainment, usually motion picture ifilms, at many camps operated by some of the larger concerns.—North Bay Nugget

The Talisman, a new express train introduced by British Railways, is scheduled to covert he 393-mile journey between London and Edinburgh in six hours and 40 minutes. It will be the fastest on the route in the Winter service since before the war. If behind schedule, it probably will make faster time that that. Or are trains in Britain ever behind time? —St. Thomas Times-Journal

Motorist torture has been refined to an exquisite degree in Minneapolis where they're submeters into 10, 15 and 20-centers, depending on location and probably to some extent on the whim of traffic engineers. There's no estimate of how much extra traffic will be generated by cheapskates driving ar ound looking for a bargain meter. Or will it become a prestige item to "always park first class?"—Philadelphia Bulletin

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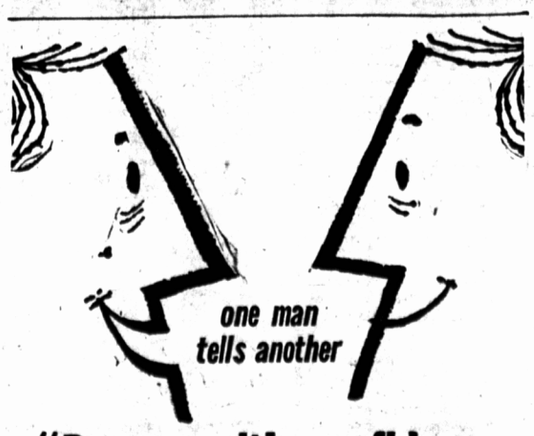
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510.48	27.00	24
756.56	40.00	24

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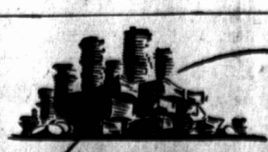
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