The Guardian

covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Very Confusing

We gather from statements by Premier Shaw this week that his government is still in the dark about the report of the consulting engineers on the proposed Northumberland Strait causeway and the reactions of Ottawa thereto. Is it possible that no trickle of information is coming through from the federal to the provincial level on the subject, despite its importance to the people of this Province? That would seem to be the gist of the Premier's complaint.

Yet we note, from a statement attributed the other day to Solicitor General MacNaught, that he has been holding talks with Provincial Highways Minister Matheson with respect to the report of Northumberland Consultants Limited; that he had consultations with Mr. Matheson both in Ottawa and Charlottetown, and that at present negotiations are being carried on with Mr. Matheson and other members of the provincial government with respect to "certain aspects" of the causeway project.

There would seem to be a direct contradiction here. Yet Premier Shaw himself was quoted yesterday as saying that his government is "investigating with Ottawa plans involving railways, roads and the causeway." We take it from this that some contact is being maintained, some information coming through, despite the "lack of liaison" about which there have been many provincial complaints.

We were prompted to call attention to this matter a few days ago, in connection with a statement in the proposal submitted by the Island Development Company Limited to Transport Minister Pickersgill. This dealt with the question of "phasing out the railway operations in the Province" in conjunction with the provision of a system of all-weather roads and the causeway. Reference was made to the company's agents having undertaken, at the federal minister's request, "a general preliminary meeting of the minds between the two levels of government," and to the assumption by the company that such a meeting occurred last June in Mr. Pickersgill's office

There is a lot of unnecessary confusion here, which the public is beginning to resent. At the provincial level, at least, we should be able to get a clarifying statement that would cut through some of the fog.

Give Them A Holiday!

With the sidetracking of the flag issue to a parliamentary committee it was hoped the country would get relief from this wearisome controversy. But a pair of television appearances by Prime Minister Pearson and Opposition leader Diefenbaker has started it going again. Mr. Pearson was to blame when he told a national audience last Sunday "we are going to have a new flag by Christmas." His statement was categorical, qualified by no ifs, ands, or buts. "It's going to be a distinctive national flag," he said, "and it will be based on this historic proud emblem of Canada, the maple leaf."

Mr. Diefenbaker, "taken aback" by this announcement, took to the airwaves to complain that the Prime Minister had virtually torpedoed the inter-party agreement on a flag committee. He went on to say that emblems such as the maple leaf had no place in any flag and furthermore, if Liberal members were going into the flag committee with the attitude expressed by Mr. Pearson, he was more than ever convinced that a plebiscite was the only solution to the question.

So, the fat is in the fire again, and both leaders have shown that they are as far from agreement as they were a month ago. In the circumstances, we like the suggestion advanced in the Ottawa Journal that both of them be given a holiday. "They need it," says our on-the-spot contemporary, "because the state of their nerves and patience and judgment is becoming so drawn that the course of government and certainly the course of Commons debate is impaired."

That, one might say, is putting it mildly.

Speeding The Plow

Congratulations to Donald Dunkeld of Claremont, Ontario, and to Dr. Carl Willis of Charlottetown on scoring first and second places in the Canadian plowing championship at Brudenell Park on Wednesday. Mr. Dunkeld, who twice won the Ontario championship, said it was "the toughest plowing competition" he had ever met. Which speaks volumes for the young Island man's achievement as runner up. Both men will represent Canada in the 1965 world contest at Oslo, Norway. Meanwhile Carl's father, Stanley Willis, has left for Vienna, Austria, to compete as last year's Canadian champion in this year's world contest.

This father-son combination of top-ranking competitors for world plowmanship honors is making news in farm publications everywhere. It is a fine way of putting Prince Edward Island on the map; and the same can be said, of course, for the achievement of all concerned in bringing the Canadian championship match to the Maritimes for the first time in history.

There have been warm expressions of appreciation of the manner in which the big match was organized here. It involved a lot of planning on the part of the Island Plowing Council and those who worked with it, and it is gratifying to note the unqualified success which has crowned their efforts.

Standing By Malaysia

British "colonialism" used to be the target for a lot of unjust American criticism, but we find no trace of this attitude in responsible American newspapers in commenting on the British movement of troops, naval vessels and planes as a precaution against further trouble in Malaysia. President Sukarno of Indonesia has carried his war against Malaysia to the Malay peninsula, and Malaysia has carried its charge of agression against Indonesia to the United Nations security council.

The Indonesian leader has threatened to break up the new nation which gives the West a buffer between his country and Communist China. He pays no attention to international law or to the fact that Malaysia was formed only after its various peoples had approved joining the far flung, independent nation. United Nations missions verified their desire for joining to form the new nation.

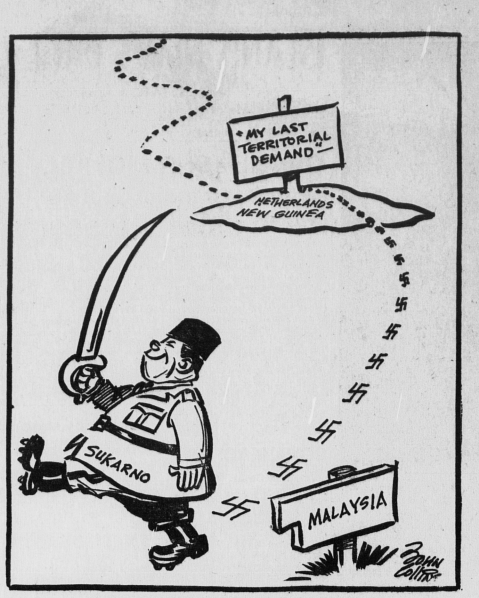
Britain and its allies have no intention of letting Malaysia fall, even if Sukarno gets the Soviet Union to veto an effort by Malaysia to condemn his country or do anything to stop his agression. This fact is appreciated at Washington, and its reasons understood.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Parliament can act quickly when it wants to. Commendable was its expedition in putting through the provisions for amending the Farm Improvement Act this week, doubling the maximum amount to $15,000 that farmers may borrow for capital investments.

* * *

It is disturbing to note, on the authority of Dun and Bradstreet, that the rate of business failures in Canada is at its highest level since the Second World War. The figure for the second quarter of 1964 rose to 653, compared with 575 in the second quarter of 1963. The current liabilities of the failures in this year's second quarter reached almost $43 million: the previous record was more than $38 million in the first quarter of this year. Most of the failures involved small businessmen.



ISN'T THIS WHERE WE CAME IN?

WORTHWHILE ACTION

When Family's Strong All Is Well

Hamilton Spectator

Now and then, from the seemingly never-ending round of royal commissions and government - sponsored conferences, there comes worthwhile action. One of these rare examples is the Vanier Institute on the family, whose organizational foundations will be laid in the next few days.

The idea sprang out of the Governor General's Canadian Conference on the Family last June. It is one of the fondest wishes of General Vanier that his term as Governor General should be marked by a tangible and enduring organization devoted to the upholding of human values. The institute will fulfil this wish.

BASIC PURPOSE

The institute's basic purpose will be to maintain and develop by positive and continuous action, the interest in family life mobilized through the conference.

Ever since the First World War, the family, as a unit in society, has been declining. This is the supreme tragedy of our civilization, for whatever natural genius mankind possesses, all of it must be subordinate to his ability to provide stable condition in which the rising generations may be reared. To fail in this is to fail in almost everything else. In spite of attempts by some philosophers and sociologists — particularly in Communist countries — to provide substitutes, the family remains the only unit on which a stable society can be built.

Today, it has many enemies. Some are economic, some distractions in the outside world beyond the wall of the home. These take a multitude of forms, but in the end their result is the same — the break up of family cohesion.

Anxiety for the future of the family has never been more intense than it is today. The gulf between the generations often seems so wide as to be impossible to bridge, even with the most sincere efforts. Without the cohesion of family life, there cannot be a society,only anarchy.

While the Vanier Institute cannot provide the corrective to the decline in family life, it can point the finger at its chief enemies, suggest ways of preserving all that is best in it and emphasize, for those who are in danger of forgetting, that it must always be the best source of mankind's contentment.

Asia's Changing Alignments

New York Times

Two events these past few days have emphasized more vividly than ever the profound importance of the Sino-Soviet struggle and its spreading consequences upon world political alignments

In Moscow, Indian President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan has received a notably cordial welcome upon his arrival for a state visit. Even more important, a few hours before he landed on Russian soil, India and the Soviet Union had signed an agreement under which Moscow will supply significant military aid to New Delhi.

The prime purpose of this military help is to strengthen India's military capabilities in the event of a new Chinese invasion. Put in other words, Soviet military aid to India today has much the same immediate motivation in terms of India's needs as the similar help being given by the United States.

The now obsolete cold war stereotypes no longer explain this kind of co-operation between the capitalist United States, neutralist India and Communist Russia against the imperial designs of Communist China.

Equally strange to those who think in terms of yesterday's slogans is the bitter attack North Korea has just unloosed against the Soviet Union. The official organ of the North Korean Communists now charges that the Soviet Union exploited their country mercifully in the past by selling its goods at extremely high prices while buying at unfairly low prices.

The North Korean newspaper also accuses Moscow of co-operating with the "imperialists" in hampering Asian and African economic development. Yet in the early 1950's much of the logistical support required by the North Koreans and Chinese troops fighting the United Nations forces in the Korean war came from the Soviet Union. Nevertheless the North Koreans have now lined up firmly with Peking against Moscow.

In this period of political flux there will undoubtedly be other significant shifts of alignment that will further bewilder those who try to understand world politics in terms of a simple conflict between all Communists and all non-Communists.

Successful American foreign policy can only be built upon full appreciation of the much more complex reality, and of the many new opportunities and problems that reality presents.

Malawi In Trouble

Winnipeg Free Press

When the former British protectorate of Nyasaland became the independent state of Malawi last July many observers predicted bitter days for the Commonwealth's newest member.

On Independence Day the new nation's problems looked particularly depressing. For one thing, a shortage of trained natives and the departure of many European administrators seemed to indicate that the prime minister, Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda, would find the task of governing the small nation difficult. Malawi's serious shortcomings in the areas of industry and agriculture also indicated trouble.

Doubts were also expressed about the stability of the Banda regime. Recent reports from Malawi indicate that such fears were well founded.

The formation of a new African state is often swiftly followed by a government announcement that members of the opposition are to be jailed or have been driven from the country. It is usually pointed out that the two party system, fine as it is in places like Great Britain, Canada and the United States, simply will not work in the new Africa.

BANDA'S PROBLEMS

Dr. Banda's problems, however, seem to involve more than simple distrust of opponents. The threat exists, apparently, within his own cabinet.

Within the past week six ministers have left the Banda cabinet. Dr. Banda, who is given to dramatic gestures, told parliament that the departing ministers would have murdered him in "cold blood." The resignations and dismissals thus leave Malawi with a three - man cabinet – the finance minister, the transport and communications minister and Dr. Banda himself.

In most Western countries such wholesale reduction of cabinet support for a prime minister would often have been followed almost at once by the resignation of the prime minister himself and the calling of an election. So far there seems to be no indication that Dr. Banda intends to do this.

Dr. Banda, according to the Times correspondent in Blantyre, charged that the dismissed cabinet ministers had fallen under the spell of the Chinese ambassador in Dar es Salaam. The ambassador, Dr. Banda claims, wanted the cabinet ministers to use their influence to get Malawi to recognize the Peking regime. Substantial monetary aid was promised

MINISTERS' WARNING

The Times correspondent goes on to say that Dr. Banda claims the ministers attacked him "viciously, violently and disrespectfully" at a cabinet meeting on August 26. They had told him, he said, that he must "stop running the country as if it were his own private estate."

Dr. Banda's government survived a confidence vote in the parliament Wednesday night. This, however, was expected, because all the MPs are Banda nominees.

The most recent cabinet member to resign, Education Minister Henry Chipembere, is considered the key man in the cabinet revolt. He is said to have wide support in the Malawi villages to which Dr. Banda looks for support in any electoral battle. His defection, according to the Times, turns what might have been a minor cabinet revolt into a major threat to Dr. Banda and those who, for various reasons, continue to support him.

Too Rugged A Test

Globe and Mail, Toronto

A properly - cut suit, the right kind of haircut and speeches spiced with wisdom gleaned from Bartlett's Familiar Quotations are as much as most politicians need to win public support. Now, however, Dr. Daniel Cappon, a psychiatrist, suggests psychological screening of all candidates before they are accepted by politic a parties to run for office.

Candidates would not only have to appear to be suitable, they would have to be suitable right to the very bottom of their psyches. How many statesmen of the past would have gotten past the examiner's couch?

Sir John A. Macdonald was a compulsive drinker. Bad show! Thomas D'Arcy McGee was given to emotional outbursts in public places and what was worse, he wrote poetry. Shocking; Mackenzie King communed with spiritualists and consulted crystal balls. Can't have that! John Diefenbaker had visions and was convinced people were plotting against him. Send for the wagon!

What would happen to those tenuous quorums we've been getting in the House of Commons recently if only those who had passed their psychological screenings were allowed to sit? Through the mists, darkly, one sees a great echoing chamber with only two men present. The one in the white coat with the clipboard rises and addresses the other:

"Mr. Speaker, everybody but me and thee... and..."

"Free As A Bird"

London Free Press

The silent departure of the birds, to be observed these days in Northwestern Ontario, is stirring within the minds of men, as it does every early fall, wonderment and admiration. Human beings who have put flying machines in the air, rockets into space and stored immense stocks of information into computers, have never been able to take apart the tiny brain of a feathered creature and discover what makes it so special.

Each September as we watch hundreds and thousands of the frail little creatures gathering at no known signal, without the use of calendars, and starting out on a two thousand mile flight, we stand in awe of the wonders of nature. Swooping, swirling and climbing in close formation, which among them says "here we rest" when they approach a group of tall trees?" Which among them says "Let's go," as they set out on another stage of their journey, and who says "This is south?" Which learns that a storm is zeroing in, and that they must take shelter?

Trying vainly to arrive at answers, we feel the migration of the birds is so complicated. Yet, is it — by comparison with the trip men made to the south? They don't have to check in at the border, worry about gas purchases, motel accommodation, or eating places. Neither do they have to worry about reservations, or fight off the nagging thought that they may have forgotten to turn off the stove back home.

"Free as a bird," is a metaphor that has special meaning at this time of the year.

Poisonous Legumes

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Lathyrism is a unique type of paralysis resulting from eating lathyrus peas. These legumes are not ordinary edible garden peas; they are grown in India, Algeria, Spain, and France. They cause trouble only when consumed in large amounts.

The disease begins with weakness and a sense of heaviness in the legs and groin. This is followed by gradual stiffening of the muscles and jerkiness and quivering o. the legs. Now and then paralysis is preceded by pain, numbness, or tingling of the lower extremities. Some describe the sensation as "ants crawling under the skin." No effective treatment is known

Lathyrism was described centuries ago. In all probability, Hippocrates referred to the disorder when he wrote "At Ainos, all men and women who ate peas continuously became impotent in the legs, and that state persisted."

Epidemics have occurred, especially during famines when people will eat anything. One of the last in Europe was traced to the use of certain lathyrus peas in the preparation of flour and cereals. Lathyrism caused paralysis among those confined in concentration and prisoner - of - war camps during World War II. This is mentioned to demonstrate that the disorder is not rare and could happen to any of us under certain conditions.

Experimental lathyrism has been produced in rats by feeding them the seeds of the common sweet pea. It differs from the human type in that bones are affected primarily. The animals develop spinal curvature similar to that seen in adolescents, as well as changes in the long bones and the ribs. The walls of the aorta tend to degenerate, leading to dissecting aneurysm.

The similarity between the bony manifestations in rats and certain skeletal disorders in man stimulated interest in this disease which mimics human conditions that never have been reproduced in the laboratory. It has opened an estirely new field for researchers.

PIGMENTED NODULES

C. D writes: Is urticaria pigmentosa a genetically determined disease?

REPLY

This chronic skin disease of children has been reported in mother and daughter and in identical twins. The pigmented nodules associated with the disorder become hive like when rubbed, because of release of histamine into the surrounding tissues. The bumps tend to disappear with adolescence.

FOOD SUPPLIES VITAMINS

L. J. writes: Up to what age should children be given vitamins?

REPLY

These supplements rarely are necessary when the child is eating a balanced diet. Vitamin D is the exception. It is started during the second week of life and discontinued when the youngster begins to eat and drink enriched foods along with fish, butter, and eggs.

STARCHES AND SUGARS

E. G. writes: Does the amount of carbohydrates eaten affect the cholesterol level in any way?

REPLY

Not significantly.

Today's Health Hint—

Ulcer victims need physical and emotional relaxation.

(Note: All correspondence to Dr. VanDellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore VanDellen, care of Chicago Tribune, Chicao, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

The problem in federal spending is to wipe out pockets of poverty without cleaning out pockets in general. Calgary Herald.

On the first day of school, the teacher left her class alone for a few minutes and was stunned to find, on her return, nothing but absolute silence. "Well, children," she beamed. "This is a pleasant surprise." And then a little boy stood up and explained, "Miss Smith, you told us when you left that if you came back and found all of us sitting perfectly still and making no noise, you'd drop dead." Montreal Star

Voice on phone — "John Smith is sick and can't attend classes today. He requested me to notify you." Professor — "All right, Who is this speaking" Voice—"This is my roommate." —Montreal Star.

A young boy, taking an exam for a position came across the question: "What is the distance of the earth from the sun?" He wrote. "I am unable to state accurately, but I don't believe the sun is near enough to interfere with a proper performance of my duties if I get this clerkship." He got the job. Galt Reporter.

Far Cry From Last Year

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Just a year ago Britain's political forum was rocked by turbulence and turmoil.

A party girl named Christine Keeler stepped out of nowhere to create the sex scandal of the age. A cabinet minister was forced to resign. Critics predicted the downfall of the Conservative regime.

But that was a year ago and times have changed. Christine has faded into the countryside, her name merely a symbol of misconduct in high places. A slender, rather plain - looking man named Sir Alec Douglas-Home has taken over the Conservative leadership and, with astonishing skill, has rebuilt the shattered Conservative cabinet.

Now the average British voter appears to be more concerned with home and hearth than the sex affairs of British politicians.

The Labor party, beaten in three consecutive elections, sensed the hour of triumph was near following the Conservatives' 1963 misfortunes. Now Labor Leader Harold Wilson is struggling to find an issue that could topple the administration.

TRAPPED WILSON

The shrewd tactics of Douglas-Home and his advisers appear to have turned the election outlook from a crisis to a yawn. The prime minister successfully trapped Wilson into believing, earlier this year, the election was imminent. Wilson launched his major political volleys only to find he had triggered them prematurely.

When the time did come, finally, to set the election date, the Conservatives dropped so many hints about the actual date—Oct. 15—that its official announcement appeared anticlimactic. Douglas-Home was bent on establishing a feeling of complacency, boredom and sleepiness among the voters. After all, he seemed to suggest, why change things when you have it so good?

That appears to be the tone of Douglas-Home's campaign. Though prices may be moving upward and the British currency may be in a bit of international trouble, Britain's wage-earners are enjoying full employment; clamoring for the better things of life by buying on the cuff.

Soaring land prices, high interest rates and a shortage of housing are causing concern. But never before in peace-time has a government managed to survive four consecutive elections.

It may be on these issues that the election campaign will turn. But that is a far cry from the crisis that faced the Conservatives just a year. Just a few months ago the pollsters anticipated a great victory for the Labor party. Now they are not so sure.

Puritan Sweepstakes

Milwaukee Journal

The pay-off comes Saturday in the first legal American lottery of the 20th century. In a referendum last March, the people of New Hampshire voted overwhelmingly for a state lottery to raise $4 million a year for state schools. They gave the proposition more votes than the 2-1 cast for three Republican primary candidates — Goldwater, Rockefeller and Lodge.

On Saturday the first fruits of the lottery will be paid out at the running of the New Hampshire sweepstakes at Salem. Those lucky enough to hold tickets on a winning horse will collect $100,000, with other prizes ranging down to $500 for persons holding tickets on horses which were entered but didn't race. All told, the state sold some $6 million worth of tickets at $3 apiece, a majority to out of state residents.

New Hampshire, which likes to pride itself on its puritan traditions, has been getting about 20 per cent of its total revenue from taxes on cigarets, beer, liquor and pari-mutuel race track betting. There is no sales or personal income tax. Thus the "puritan sweepstakes" was said to be needed to save New Hampshire's hard pressed schools.

Two sweepstakes are planned for next year with a hopeful take of $12 million, $4 million of it for the schools. Citizens of other states, who have to pay their own way without resorting to such unsavory gimmicks, may view with embarrassment the spectacle of New Hampshire using human cupidity to finance the education of its children.

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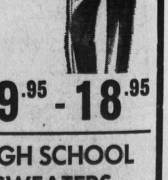

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