

Levers Prince Edward Island The New... W. J. Adams, Publisher... Executive Editor... Published every week day morning...

Not over 35c per copy... \$11.00 a year... \$14.00 a year... \$16.00 a year...

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1952

Rail Line Changes

The reshuffling of CNR train operations between Charlottetown and Tignish is no doubt dictated by economic necessity on the railway's part.

The situation gives point to a suggestion made in a brief presented this week to Prime Minister Pearson by the national legislative committee of Canada's railway unions.

The proposed regulatory body would have wide powers of investigation so that its decisions could be based on comprehensive, long-range planning.

It is recalled, in this connection, that Mr. Pearson had issued a statement during the election campaign that would establish a committee to receive representations from farmers, labor, municipalities and the provinces on the question of rail line abandonments.

This campaign promise is what has sparked the presentation of the union brief to the Prime Minister. It opens the way to presentations from other bodies, and places the onus on the Federal Government of assuming much more responsibility for rail line abandonments than it has done in the past.

The Marvel Of Telstar

Telstar II, launched yesterday from Cape Canaveral, marks another historic step toward a world-wide space communications system, in which satellites orbiting thousands of miles above the earth will serve as a network of microwave relay stations for transmitting and receiving television, telephone, telegraph, teletype and other kinds of instantaneous communication.

According to Bell Telephone scientists, it would take 50 undersea cables of design similar to the three used in the North Atlantic just to handle the estimated 1980 requirements for telephone and a few other services alone. And today's cables could not handle television at all, for television requires channels of great frequency bandwidth.

Transmission of great volumes of messages and of television and other complex data will require the transocean use of microwaves—broadband beams that have tremendous capacity and can handle all types of communications. However, microwaves, like light, travel in

straight lines. Numerous relay towers are needed on land to intercept and amplify the signal repeatedly and to send it on in a straight line. Up to the present, microwave transmission has not been practical across wide bodies of water. A signal sent across the Atlantic, for example, would soar off into space because it could not follow the earth's curvature to a receiving station. Television signals cannot be bounced off the ionosphere in the manner of short radio waves. Thus there is no way to relay television overseas except by satellite.

Like relay towers for microwave transmission on land, satellites such as Telstar pick up microwave signals carrying television or other types of communication, amplify them billions of times, and then transmit them to receiving stations thousands of miles distant.

Telstar I, launched last July 10, functioned almost perfectly in the initial weeks of its operation but was disabled by radiation damage which ionized (electrified) the gases in the transmitters of the command decoders—the area where commands sent from the earth are translated. To prevent radiation damage in Telstar II, its transistors have been pumped free of air and sealed in a vacuum, thus eliminating the possibility of ionized gases. Also, the higher orbit of Telstar II is designed to have it spend less time in the high radiation areas than Telstar I.

Military Pensions

One of the points raised by the Glasco royal commission in support of its suggestion that more civilians be employed by the armed forces is the cost of military pensions. Service officers are required to retire at a much earlier age than in the case of other occupations and they are paid very generous allowances.

Some examples of these allowances for various ranks in the Army follow (compulsory retirement age in brackets): Lieutenant (45) \$3,747; Captain (47) \$4,401; Major (49) \$4,643; Lieutenant-Col. (51) \$6,001; Colonel (53) \$7,438; Brigadier (55) \$9,782; Major-General (55) \$10,937; Lieutenant-General (55) \$12,096.

As the Winnipeg Free Press notes in commenting on these figures, there is a good case to be made out for early retirements and generous allowances. The commission report mentions the need for youth and physical fitness, the importance of keeping the armed forces attractive to young people, and the need to keep the services vital and provide adequate room for promotions.

But it is a question—as the commission also points out—whether such considerations are really applicable to officers and men performing wholly non-combat duties, 60,000 personnel in all ranks of the three services, it is noted, are engaged in what is known as "supporting activities".

The Navy appears to have done particularly well in employing civilian personnel. The commission estimates that if the other two services achieved the same ratio the direct savings in salaries and benefits would be about \$20 million a year.

What is needed, obviously, is a comprehensive review of the manpower needs of the three services, with special attention being given to determining which functions can be adequately performed by civilian personnel, who would retire at the same ages and under the same arrangements as other civil servants. The present setup is unnecessarily costly, and there seems no reason why it cannot be changed without detriment to military efficiency.

EDITORIAL NOTE

An international education centre, designed to serve the needs of educationalists in all countries, is now being planned in Berlin. It will collect and make available material such as teaching manuals, textbooks, teaching aids, educational journals and articles, reports on conferences, etc., received from all over the world. It is also planned to establish in Berlin an international educational advisory service which will deal with enquiries from educators on an international basis. The Mayor of Berlin has appointed seventeen educationalists from Europe and the United States to serve on the committee of the new centre.



MAY FLOWERS

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

May Open Plants Somewhere In Canada

Will Canada soon have a state-owned automobile plant operating in the north? The implications to our domestic industry might be far-reaching if, as is being confidentially discussed in trade circles and government circles here, two more foreign car manufacturers join the parade into Canada started by General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, and recently augmented by plans of Sweden's "Volvo" company.

PUBLIC FORUM

MINIMUM WAGE LAW Sir, It seems to me the 1952 Government has been pretty good to themselves; two cent tax on gas one cent on meat, and an increase of one thousand dollars in their salaries. Now for the public good, let us have a great talk about a minimum wage law. There is not a word about it in the budget. If the members can't live on two thousand per year how can they expect the labourer to live on seven-hundred per year?

LABOURER, Kensington. I had no my own pleasures, in the old days before the advent of the automobile. I had many horses I have owned and driven have given me exquisite pleasure. The automobile is a plated concept of transportation could ever hope to equal. I can remember one in particular that stands out as a red letter day—or night rather—in my recollection.

NOSTALGIA PERHAPS Sir,—In a recent issue of The Guardian under a caption concerning the automobile, there appeared the picture of an old-time peedling wagon to which was attached a stentled looking horse wearing a straw hat to protect him from the sun, and driving by a kind looking man sporting a huge mustache. This invoked memories of my own days. At the beginning of the century, my father operated — in connection with a general store — three of these peedling wagons. He drove one himself and two trusted employees the others. These wagons were not exact replicas of the illustration in the paper. They were loaded all around with several burlap sacks for holding the various goods offered for sale, ranging from candy to corsets, and a padded rectangle to hold the eggs was fastened to the front. This was before the day of the egg grading station, and the slightest bump would send the farmer with much of the purchasing power necessary for success to the gutter.

I can remember my father leaving in the pre-dawn of a June or July morning on a trip to East Point, or Annandale, or Lunning. It was his way to run early at the extreme of his route, and work his way back from house to house trading his goods and receiving the better part of a week. When he had a full load of eggs he had certain loads of goods to take home, and sent them to St. Peter's, by the wagon, and returned the same way.

He was the personification of diligence and he worked hard, but he neither received nor valued any pay. Can one imagine any occupation or job that is so noble as that of a farmer? He necessarily to drive alone a pair of horses, and to be a dewy dawn of a summer morning, soothed and delighted to look into the steady eyes of his horses, and the chirping of crickets, all to the accompaniment of my parent's happy whistling. Most certainly we did not pity him. Nobody was happier while he travelled, than my beloved father long since departed to that bourne "from whence no traveller returns." It is as if he deprived the loving companionship of the shades of the horses, the good Lord allowed him to possess and cherish what he was not to lose. He was not a smacker of sacrifice, I can

No Cure As Yet For 'White Blood'

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen LEUKEMIA is on the increase. Radiation, including X-ray, has been thought to be responsible in some cases and certain viruses have been found to play a role in that the ionizing radiation makes the normal lymphoid cells more susceptible to leukemia virus.

Meanwhile, our cancer specialists must be met the threat with a group of new chemical treatments, which usually relieve symptoms and usually prolong life. Furthermore, there is a variety of these agents, if there no longer is a response to one, another may prove effective.

The different forms of leukemia require different treatments. It is cancer of the organs that manufacture blood such as the lymph glands and bone marrow. These structures produce large numbers of immature white blood cells of no value to the body; they cannot produce antibodies to fight bacteria and other chemicals to destroy viruses.

Acute leukemia resembles an acute infection and is particularly common in the young. Prior to the discovery of modern chemical treatments, the disease usually killed within six to eight weeks. The new drugs include purine antagonists, and the adrenocortical steroids which cortisone is one of.

Chronic leukemia develops usually in men and women of middle age. The disease is slow to start and drags on for years. The individual usually has a steady weight loss and tending and dyspeptic. Pain and tenderness of the spleen and liver are the type that involves marrow (myelogenous) whereas chronic leukemia is of the lymphatic variety.

No drug is more effective than the cobalt-60 cobalt bomb, and radio-active phosphorus. The rays lower the number of white blood cells and cause discomfort due to pressure from the enlarged lymph nodes.

HARBORING AMKRA A.J.H. writes: It is possible to have amebas in the intestine for 12 years without knowing it.

REPLY Yes, depending upon the amount of amebas living in the intestine and never cause trouble. However, if it is used more frequently.

REPLY Yes, in certain types, to produce a small shock. Electric stimulation is used more frequently.

FIRST FIND CAUSE A.B. writes: It is possible to cure heartburn, a better bladder removed to cure heartburn, a better bladder removed to cure heartburn.

Our Yesterday's (From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO May 8, 1927 Many long-time visitors have passed through Harris Memorial Gallery in the last two days, where exhibition of water colors by the Canadian Society of Painters is on display.

MISS MARY G. MACDONALD, Charlottetown, was appointed supervisor of the Dominion's Institutes to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Joan Rodd, Provincial Agricultural Minister. W.H. Dennis announced yesterday.

TEN YEARS AGO May 8, 1942 Kenneth Weston, financial advisor to the United Kingdom High Commission and as assistant secretary of the British Treasury, is paying a visit to Ottawa. Weston had been here before he has been accompanied on tours by S. Graham Rogers, Minister of Finance. Rogers calls on His Honor T. W. L. Prowse and City officials.

Representatives from many parts of the province attended the meeting of the Board of the Swimming and Water Safety committee held recently at Red Cross headquarters.

Block Escapes — An East German attempting to escape to the West was knocked unconscious by East Berlin border guards. The Communist newspaper reported. The Communist border guards were men with their rifle butts. The Westerners said, East Germans were arrested as they waded through a border canal.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A person knows what he's talking about, the more time he takes to explain it. — Sudbury Star.

One of the penalties of having had handwriting is that when a one goes through old note-books and letters, it is often found that either or not they are irritating enough to keep. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

A fashion authority says it is quite possible to wear diamond earrings for lunch. Some housewives haven't yet got around to the idea for lunch. — Edmonton Journal.

A beginner is a guy who does everything wrong without reason. An expert has all kinds of reasons for doing things wrong. — Chatham News.

An eastern judge at a dude ranch was fascinated in watching a cowboy prepare himself for a ride. The judge said, "I finally remarked, 'the way you can roll a cigarette with one end of the straw.' The cowboy responded, 'Gettin' the filter in is the hard part.'"

Little Mary was visiting her grandmother in the colony. Walking in the garden, she chanced to see a peacock. She had never seen a peacock before, gazing in silent admiration, she ran quickly into the house and cried, "I will give you a peacock and see! One of you chickens is in bloom!" — Winsor Star.

The Haitian Crisis

By Boris Miller Canadian Press Staff Writer

The Haitian crisis kept warm by a deep and turbulent undercurrent for some time threatens to flare into a full-scale war to boil over.

And there is no easy solution to the Haitian problem. It results from the failure of President Francois Duvalier to remedy the situation in a workable political and economic stability.

As the situation became worse Duvalier turned his attention toward consolidating his rule in the Caribbean Sea. He has announced that he will not accept any private police force, quick to use force before he has announced that he would hold the presidency for another six-year term.

Now it appears that British and other Latin American states feel the time is ripe for the people to rise up against the country doctor who has turned dictator.

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THE FASHION SHOPPE

Advertisements for 'The Fashion Shoppe' featuring various clothing items like 'Flying Dutchman Restaurant', 'Nurses Uniforms', and 'The Fashion Shoppe' with a list of items and prices.