

"Covered Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"  
Published every week-day morning at 165 Prince Street  
Charlottetown, P.E.I., by The Thomson Company Ltd.  
44 King St. W., Toronto  
Member of the Canadian Press  
Member of the Associated Press  
Member of the International News Service  
Member of the United Press  
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Member of the United Press

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

PAGE 4 TUESDAY, SEPT. 10, 1957

Psychological Damage

Perhaps the worst thing about the strife and turmoil in the Southern United States is the psychological damage it is doing to the children of both races.

For the Negro children as they try to enter classes, the jeers and taunts of bystanders, even when there is no actual violence, must be as iron in their souls. Many of them, of course, are too young to understand the deep rooted prejudices which are making their lives miserable. For them the ordeal must be particularly galling. It is to the credit of the older children and their parents that they have in almost every instance conducted themselves with calmness and dignity. Some day, when they are old men and women and the torments of the present have passed into an unpleasant memory, they will be able to tell their grandchildren of the part they played in helping a great nation find its soul. Meanwhile they deserve the pity and the admiration of just persons everywhere.

As for the white children who are found in the pro-segregation mobs, they, too, are to be pitied, since in most instances they are merely following the example and, often, the urging of their elders. The damage that is being done to their minds and characters is perhaps even greater than that which the Negro children themselves have to suffer; for it is an evil thing in which they have been forced to share. It has been proved many times that when the Negro children and the white children do get together in classes and playgrounds they get along well. It is only when adult prejudices and hates are in control that the young participate willingly in the iniquitous taunting and lawlessness.

What chance have these young people of growing into good citizenship when they see the Governor of a State, not to mention other lesser officials, leading in a campaign of persecution and openly defying the law of the land? The mature law-abiding and right-minded white citizens of the South—there are still many of them—must shudder with horror as they witness the immeasurable harm that is being done to the boys and girls and young men and young women among them.

British Politics

British Labourites are said to be divided on the issue of re-nationalizing steel and trucking services (which the Conservatives put back to private control on attaining office) in the event of their forming a Government after the next election. Mr. Gaitskill and his moderate colleagues are reported to favour the State's buying control of these industries on the stock market in the regular way of business, while some Trade Union leaders prefer the old-fashioned, doctrinaire program which the former Labour Government put into effect on a limited basis.

Mr. Gaitskill is Opposition leader in the House of Commons; and, of course, like Opposition leaders everywhere, his main concern is to bring himself and his Party to an electoral victory at the first opportunity. He evidently feels that this can be done more easily by pursuing the moderate nationalization program he has in mind than by adhering to the text-book socialistic principles. In that he is probably right; for, strong as the Trade Unions Congress is, it is not and never has been and isn't likely to be strong enough of itself, to dominate public opinion. There seems to be a large body of public opinion in Britain which is in general sympathy with moderate Socialism but which has no liking for the radicalism which insists on bringing everything arbitrarily under state control. This is the faction

for which Mr. Gaitskill is evidently angling; on the theory, no doubt, that when it comes to choosing sides, the T. U. C., or the main part of it, will be with him anyhow, whatever the nationalization program may be.

It is an interesting thing that, allowing for extremists on both sides, Conservatism and Socialism seem to have come a bit closer to each other in post-war years. The present Government has shown that it has no intention of weakening to any noticeable extent the apparatus of the Welfare State, for to do so would mean certain defeat; while the Socialists have come to see that the virtues of moderation outweigh the alleged attractions of rigid state control of the economy.

Safe, Practical, Effective

Advocates of fluoridated drinking water will be interested to learn that the World Health Organization, the United Nations' health agency, has given its unqualified support to the process. A report issued at Geneva, headquarters of the organization, calls it "safe, practical and effective."

The report is based on the study by a committee of experts of 700 fluoridation programs. It reveals that in the United States 32 million persons in more than 1500 communities are drinking the treated water and that in 16 other countries the program is in various stages of development. In all instances covered by the survey dental decay in the permanent teeth of children was found to have decreased at least 60 per cent, while in primary teeth the reductions range from 50 to 60 per cent. In addition, children who drink fluoridated water were found to have better formed teeth, on the whole, and more resistant to decay than those of other children.

The report states categorically that no ill effects have ever been detected in areas where people have been drinking naturally fluoridated water, although there have been a few cases reported where an excessive amount of natural fluorine concentration has caused mottled teeth. This amount, however, is much above the 1 to 1 million ratio recommended by health authorities.

It is noted that what public opposition to fluoridation there is results from "misinterpretation, tests conducted under inapplicable experimental conditions and illogical interpretations."

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is reported that 2,000 makes of motor vehicles once in use in Canada and the United States have disappeared. The Model T, though, is not among them. Some say that nothing has ever been built to equal it in enduring qualities.

Two Canadian Insurance Companies doing business in Ceylon have decided to close their offices. Other concerns are said to be considering similar action, as a result of the Government's declared policy of nationalizing all foreign companies.

Canada's population is 15 per cent greater than it was in 1951 when the last full census was taken. This makes the growth 6 per cent higher than that of the United States in the same period. It is interesting to note, too, that at the present time young people under 15 make up 32½ per cent of the population. The ratio in 1951 was a little over 30 per cent.

Keen competition is expected in all classes in the Provincial Plowing Match at Dundas tomorrow. There are many added attractions this year, including a plowing demonstration by oxen from Annapolis Valley, handicraft and garden exhibits, well-filled livestock classes and all the ingredients that go into the making of a lively agricultural fair.

The best wishes of all our farmers will accompany Mr. Stanley Willis, of Cornwall, when he leaves tomorrow to participate in the world plowing championships at Peebles, Ohio. There is no question but that he will give a good account of himself. He has already given valued publicity to the Island by his plowing achievements, and his son Stanley is following ably in his furrows.



MORE SHOES TO FILL

OTTAWA REPORT

Welfare Provisions

By Patrick Nicholson

NEW York: Canadians will envy two provisions of the American welfare state which I have discovered here. These are the generous social security payments to old people, and the easy-purchase arrangements offered to home-buyers.

Our Old Age Pensioners can look back on only five years of state pension. It was as recently as 1952 that the Federal government instituted the pension for all at age 70, at the rate of 40 per month. This Spring, the former Liberal Government raised this inadequate monthly figure to the still insufficient rate of \$46 per month.

In contrast, a social security plan to provide pensions for old folk was instituted in the U.S.A. just 20 years ago. The rate of pension has been repeatedly raised during the subsequent years. Today the maximum benefit is \$108 per month for a single person and \$162 for a married couple. Yet New York City's Mayor Wagner insists that average family pensions should be at least \$200 per month.

Recently, the pensionable age for women was reduced to 62 years. This social security plan, like our own, is contributory. Payments are made out of a fund, intended to be self-supporting, which is created by payments from wage-earners and their employers. Unlike the American plan, our old age pension started out by being fully comprehensive, covering every person old in age.

GENEROUS MORTGAGES

Would-be home-owners in the States have just been given a magic pass-key to happiness by the U.S. government. It has made its attractive home mortgage way of duty.

The echo-sounding equipment the little expedition carried revealed a clear channel with a minimum depth of 30 feet. The new passage will serve the ships that every year must come this way to bring supplies to the fifty U.S. DEW-line stations established in the Canadian Arctic.

SKILL AND RESOLUTION

Helicopters and a small sound boat named POGO would unquestionably be a help, but the main ingredient in this sort of navigation are still the same as in John Cabot's time and in Humphrey Gilbert's: the skill and the resolution of the men, in the small ships that sail these bitter seas.

plan even more attractive, by lowering the down payments called for. To make this step possible, the government said, it would be necessary to increase the interest rate on such government-insured mortgages. But even after this warned increase, the terms still look like a give-away program to Canadian eyes, for the interest rate was compared to 5½ per cent; the comparable rate of interest on similar government-insured mortgages in Canada is now the much more onerous 6 per cent.

The scale of down payments required on those American mortgages has been reduced to a level which now surely puts homeownership within the reach of every American couple who can afford the wedding ring. MAKES YOUR MOUTH WATER

On a \$10,000 house, the down payment required now is only \$300. On a similar house in Canada, likewise financed by a government-insured mortgage, the down payment is \$1,400. But it is fair to point out that this is rather a hypothetical case, for there are not many houses being sold at such a low price in Canada today.

On a \$15,000 home in the States, the down payment is now only \$1,050. On a similar house in Canada, the down payment is \$2,900. On a \$20,000 home in the States, the down payment has been reduced to \$2,400. On a similar home in Canada covered by a government-insured or National Housing Act Mortgage, the down payment is an almost prohibitive \$7,200.

U.S. mortgages may be repaid over 30 years, a further point which assists the buyer short of cash and which offers

Into Uncharted Seas

Judith Robinson in the Toronto Telegram

Last Saturday, preceded by the small sound boat POGO and two helicopters, the Canadian patrol ship Labrador moved through Elliot Straits to complete a new chapter in a long brave story.

She was charting a deep and safer Northwest Passage through the Arctic ice newly discovered by her navigators. The story's first chapter was begun rather more than four centuries ago, in the year of our Lord 1497 to be exact, and on the day when John Cabot, a Venetian, and his son Sebastian with an English fleet set out from Bristol on a navigation intended for the finding of a Northwest Passage.

John Cabot, his son Sebastian and the sailors of their English fleet were but the first of many fellows who set out upon that quest from English ports. In the succeeding century Frobisher, Sir John Davis, Edward Fenton all made the effort led on by hope.

LED BY HOPE Sir Humphrey Gilbert took the Northwest Passage to Cathala and the evidence for its existence as his life's study, and drowned at last returning from a vain effort to prove his faith justified. But before he died he wrote, and his writing still stands to remind Canadians that they and their country grew out of the great dream of a great age.

John Cabot had been prevented by mutiny, as Humphrey Gilbert was prevented by death from breaking his heart in the quest of a path to Cathala by the Northwest. But those that came after pursued it undaunted; even to last Saturday, when a Canadian patrol boat in the service of Elizabeth II moved safely through the 17-mile length of the waterway which will provide not a Northwest Passage to Cathala but something more immediately useful: A safe escape route; a new safe way out for ships caught by the shifting, grinding ice of the main pack of the Beaufort Sea while in the

OUR YESTERDAYS

— Louise Darcy in the Christian Science Monitor.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Sept. 10, 1932) Though construction work on the new Prince of Wales College Building has been held up six weeks due to delay in arrival of cut building stone, the contracting firm, Stewart Construction Company, hopes to have work completed in scheduled time, and to have the building ready for opening about the first of the coming year.

At a meeting of the Committee planning the proposed Community celebration in Charlottetown, it was decided to postpone the proposed celebration because of recent developments and hold it sometime in early October. Further committees were appointed and following organization of their respective programs, will submit a plan of operation to the central committee.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Sept. 10, 1947) A decision to supply electric energy to the villages of Wellington and Richmond, provided that arrangements can be made with the Provincial Government for the use of the line to the Mount Pleasant Airport, was taken at the regular monthly meeting of the Summerside Town Council Monday night. Letters referring to the above and requesting this service were read at the meeting.

FEAR NATIONALIZATION

MONTREAL (CP) — The Sun Life Assurance Company said Thursday its offices in Colombo, Ceylon, are to be closed because of "unstable conditions." A company spokesman said a fear that the company might be nationalized has an important bearing on the decision.

Poor Eyesight May Be Factor

by Herman N. Sundes, M.D. Ever hear of "school myopia?" It's a hazard of our modern-day educational procedures and is one of the major causes of eye trouble among youngsters. Seeing and hearing difficulties of such children, I contend, are behind a good deal of our juvenile delinquency problems. The human eye finds it difficult to cope with today's demands for intricate near-point tasks with inadequate light. Its natural aptitude is for simple far point jobs in full daylight.

Nearsightedness, farsightedness, lack of depth perception, one-eyed seeing, glaucoma—these are among the most common visual difficulties found in children. While we believe that some nearsightedness is caused by the shape of the eyeball, another type, "school myopia," comes from excessive close work. Statistics show that the percentage of nearsighted pupils increases steadily from grade to grade.

From 20 to 40 per cent of our children in kindergarten through sixth grade have some sort of eye trouble. Some of these youngsters eventually will become blind if they don't get help. Children with eye difficulties generally make poor readers. There's no disputing that. Often they confuse similarly shaped letters such as o and a, e and c, n and m, h and n and r.

While it is true that some of the mistakes are caused simply by poor spelling ability, some are the result of poor seeing ability too. Eyesight tests of some 2,200 children in Grade 3 through 12 show that, in general, children who see work well; those with poor eyesight do poorly. VISUAL FATIGUE Unless it is corrected, poor eyesight will cause visual fatigue. This, coupled with the inability to read as well as others in the class, may well cause a child's mind to wander. He's apt to become a daydreamer and his studies will suffer.

The emotional world that surrounds a child is an extremely important factor in his development. If he lags too far behind in his studies, or is much older than the other kids in his class, he is ripe for development into a full-scale delinquent. The answer to this phase of the delinquency problem, is, of course, to detect eye and ear trouble promptly and to take steps to correct it.

QUESTION AND ANSWER C.F.: I have heard that even once it is cured, mental illness will recur and can never be permanently cured. Is it true? Answer: There has been many instances where mental illness has been permanently cured.

MAXIMS

The man who starts out with the notion that the world owes him a living generally finds that the world pays its debt in the penitentiary or the poorhouse.

SOUTHERN LAKE

Lake Okechobee, largest in Florida, covers 1,200 square miles.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A health expert says you can't go to sleep until you quit thinking, making us marvel how some keep awake all day.—Brandon Sun

Let's stop asking very old people how they have been able to achieve their longevity. They do not know, anyway, and often give some silly answer such as: "Well, I take a mint julep four times a day."—Milwaukee Journal

As a relief from the continued attack on 'teen-age drivers we call attention to an accident at Mitchell, South Dakota, in which a 42-year-old truck, driven by a man of 82, and travelling at two miles an hour, struck a 74-year-old pedestrian, who suffered a sprained ankle as a result. We wish we had been present to hear the exchange of old-world courtesy.—Peterborough Examiner

The report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that Alberta's birth rate last year climbed above that of Quebec will cause considerable surprise. Alberta was second among Canadian provinces with a rate of 31.1 births per thousand of population while Quebec was fourth with 25.4. Prosperity is believed to have a beneficial effect on the birth rate and Alberta is certainly prosperous.—Edmonton Journal

The Age Old Story

Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Many a wife will complain that her husband wasted his years. The Boy Scouts learning to light a fire with two sticks instead of studying something useful, such as how to keep a cigarette lighter in working condition.—Winnipeg Tribune

The queer tricks that squirrels will perform are inexplicable as lumberjacks discovered near Roseheim, West Germany. They felled a tree and found squirrels' nest lined with two pairs of women's stockings and a silk scarf. The items having disappeared from a nearby clothesline.—St. Thomas Times Journal

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OTTAWA, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1957.