The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

PAGE 6 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1962.

Going The Whole Hog

Prime Minister Diefenbaker's proposal for a "world trading conference," to meet in Canada at the "earliest practical moment," has been put forward in what appears to be an alternative plan to Britain's entry into the European Common Market. There is at least a superficial appeal to the proposal, too, since the need is obvious for improved international trade relations, to be extended over as large a part of the world as can be reached.

What is less obvious is why any great hopes should be attached to the proposal in the shape it has been given by Mr. Diefenbaker.

Many question arise: Why was the plan put forward almost at the end of the Commonwealth Conference, rather than at its beginning? Are nations which seem bound together chiefly by their opposition to British entry into the European Common Market qualified to give leadership toward formation of an even larger grouping? Does the present conference's failure to reach accord qualify it to become a springboard for the launching of a still broader conference? Are there any non-Commonwealth powers that stand ready to abandon their moves to date, looking toward broadened trade, and to follow Mr. Diefenbaker's lead?

Mr. Diefenbaker indicated that his proposal had been inspired by President's Kennedy's action in placing before the U.S. Congress a program for expanding world trade. He suggested that the Commonwealth, representing as it does a large proportion of the world's population, should endeavor to give world leadership in this direction. But President Kennedy is backing Britain's trade union with Europe as a first necessary step in achieving this objective. Mr. Diefenbaker has done nothing but throw cold water on the scheme. He proposes now to reach the ultimate goal without taking the journey by stages, and without giving any indication as to what concessions Canada is prepared to make in getting there.

The Prime Minister's urge to give "leadership", not only to the Commonwealth but to the world at large, comes at a time when he is heading a minority government in his own country, and when his right to speak as he has been doing at the Commonwealth Conference will be a hotly debated question in the new Canadian Parliament.

The leading opponent he will face there will be Liberal Leader Lester Pearson, who has consistently supported the British move toward closer trade and political ties with Europe, but with the added feature that British entry into the Common Market should be merely a step toward expanding the Market across the Atlantic into an association that would embrace Canada and the United States too. Is it with this in mind that the Prime Minister now proposes to go the whole hog—or, rather, to hold a conference to discuss its possibilities while throwing the obtainable part of the hog into the discard?

He puts this forward as "a practical contribution to the solution of our difficulties." It sounds rather like a desperate effort to save face on an issue which he has misjudged from the start, and on which he has talked himself and his party into a most unenviable position.

A Bad Blunder

When the United Nations General Assembly meets today Dr. Gunapala Piyasena Malalasekera, who heads Ceylon's delegation, hopes to be elected president. He has been soliciting support everywhere. But unfortunately for his cause, he has also been writing letters which have gotten him into an embarrassing position.

It seems that Dr. Malalasekera wrote a letter home to his government and other letters to foreign embassies in Ottawa. In the former he commented on the U.N. and some of its members. In the latter he sought support for the presidency. But someone goofed and put the wrong letters in the wrong envelopes. As a result diplomats in Ottawa got some startling comments by the doctor.

Writing of a speech given by United States Ambassador Adellai Stevenson, Malalasekera called it "a tirade against the USSR which impressed no one and merely intensified the cold war." He had nasty things to say about the American Alliance for Progress program and said that it wasn't important enough to bring Latin American support for United States positions in the U.N. Finland, Sweden and Austria, he said, are only "so-called neutrals". He charged that the "military overlords in the Pentagon" had directed the Kennedy administration approach to the Kashmir problem.

Comments of this kind are hardly likely to win the support of the nations named. As an American exchange suggests drily, it would be doing the man a favor not to make him Assembly president—he ought to be spending more time keeping his mail straight.

The Argentine Market

Canadian seed potato exporters should find a steady and improving market in Argentina for Kennebec and White Rose varieties if predictions by Argentine government agriculturalists prove correct, says J. G. Ireland, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Buenos Aires, writing in the current issue of "Foreign Trade" magazine. Their prediction is that in ten years' time the Kennebec will comprise 20 per cent of Argentine plantings and White Rose 9 per cent. These estimates are based on the fact that seed from the Northern Hemisphere has an advantage over local seed in Argentina's main growing areas, because of climatic conditions there.

Argentina of late years has not been an important market for Canadian seed potatoes but special opportunities do appear from time to time. Now a special decree of the Argentine Government has freed seed potato imports from all duties and surcharges, with no limitations on quantity, origin or packing. Nor are they subject to quotas or import licensing.

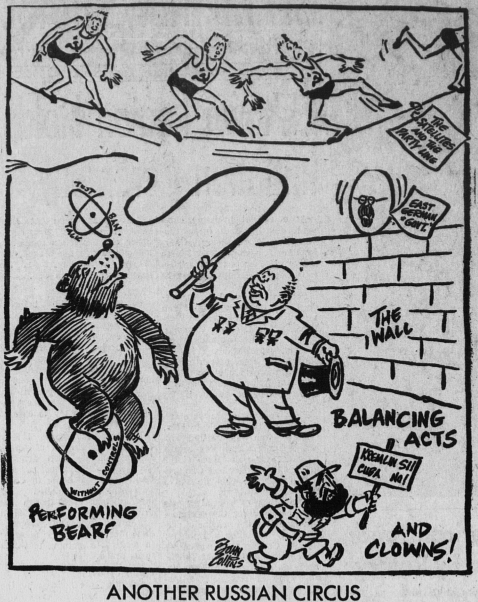
Canadian firms wishing to enter this market for the first time should, says "Foreign Trade", contact the Commercial Division, Canadian Embassy, Bartolome Mitre 478, Buenos Aires. The Trade Commissioners will be pleased to offer their full co-operation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

What on earth prompted Washington to sell U-2 spy planes to that raucous old dictator, Chiang Kai-shek? The Americans must have known what he would use them for. As the Fredericton Gleaner well says, Chiang is a man dedicated to war. That he can return to the Chinese mainland is an illusion; but that he can blunder into a Far Eastern war, and drag the U.S. with him, is not beyond the realm of possibility. To put espionage weapons in his hands is madness.

* * *

The United States not only has a tradition of respect for the legal rights of sovereign states; it also has a revolutionary tradition of seeking to spread its ideals of democratic government and individual freedom. In the case of Cuba, notes the Globe and Mail, these two traditions appear to be in conflict. The United States seems to be faced with a choice of abandoning the Cuban people to tyranny or interfering in the internal affairs of an independent nation. The conflict in the U.S. mentality between two values in part explains the vehemence of U.S. hostility toward Cuba.



ANOTHER RUSSIAN CIRCUS

IN GLASTONBURY ABBEY

The Royal Dust Of Arthur

G. S. Robertson in The Winnipeg Free Press

To say that something should have been is an unconvincing way to argue that it was. It may be true, in its own way, that King Arthur could not die in peace, or find his way to Avalon, until he knew that from far out in the middle mere an arm, "clothed in white samite, mystic, wonderful," had been thrust up through the lapping waves to seize his diamond-blazing sword Excalibur and draw it gently down into the secret depths.

But this is not the sort of truth, reluctant though he no doubt is to turn his back on it, with which Mr. Ralegh Radford is concerned as he digs among the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey, where he has almost, if not quite, convinced himself that he has found King Arthur's tomb.

A LONG TRAIL

Mr. Radford is an archeologist, and the truth he seeks is scientific truth. Yet surely it is significant, not to say ironical, htat the srientific trail which he has followed for ten years should have taken him at last to Glastonbury. For it was on a hill in Glastonbury that Joseph of Arimathea, wearied by the climb and by his arduous, nerve-wracking voyage from Jerusalem, planted his staff in the earth and sat down to rest beside his bundle. From that day to this the hill has been called Weary-all, and in the bundle by his side he had the Holy Grail.

Nor is that all; for his staff, as is well known, took root and bloomed on Christmas Day, which it has done on every Christmas Day from that time on — though some authorities contend that it is synchronized not with our own but with the Old Style, Julian, calendar.

King Arthur, as Mr. Radford must be well aware, is buried deep not only, if his theory is correct, among the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey, but deep in British legend. We can only hope that if, when he has cleared away the fascinating rubble, he finds the answer, that answer will be more than dust. It is not Mr. Radford's fault that he must scrape away the lovely nonsense to come at the hard truth; it is the nature of his calling.

ANOTHER VIEW

There is, of course, another, less confining, point of view; the one from which Sir Winston Churchill, himself no mean historian, once happily described the scene below. Having delved as deeply into the Arthurian documents as scholarly integrity required, Sir Winston took his stand upon the broad and pleasant upland of uncommon sense and said:

"It is all true, or it ought to be; and more and better besides. And wherever men are fighting against barbarism, tyranny and massacre, for freedom, law, and honor, let them remember that the fame of their deeds, even though they themselves be exterminated, may perhaps be celebrated as long as the world rolls round. Let us then declare that King Arthur and his noble knights, guarding the sacred flame of Christianity and the theme of world order, sustained by valor, physical strength, and good horses and armor, slaughtered innumerable hosts of foul barbarians and set decent folk an example for all time."

Which, however scientific it may be or fail to be, is clearly above argument, as well as being, by any standard, admirably put.

Triumph In Space

New York Times

A radio signal from an antenna in the Mojave Desert in California has reached America's Venus probe, Mariner II, and commanded it to correct its course. The result is that instead of missing Venus by 233,000 miles it will come within 9,000 miles of the planet, fully 1,000 miles nearer than had been originally planned.

Nothng so far n the space achievements of either Russia or the United States comes even close to the complexity and subtlety of the maneuvres initiated by the single radio impulse from the ground across the distance of 1.2 million miles in space on an object travelling at a speed of 60,000 miles an hour. At the signal, the spacecraft first rolled over on its axis. Two seconds later it pitched over backward. Thus placed in proper position, the craft's liquid - fueled rocket, placed aboard for just such a contingency, ignited and slowed down the vehicle's speed by a minuscule item of 63 miles per hour. This, as it turned out, was more than enough to change the craft's trajectory.

Having corrected its course, the machine still had to perform two more complicated maneuvres. One was to face the sun in order to make its solar batteries function. Next it had to turn earthward its radio antenna, which will report what it sees on Venus. So successfully have all the maneuvres been carried out that the scientists now confidently expect that Mariner II will pass the sunny side of Venus at 12:45 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on Dec. 14, at a distance of some 36,000,000 miles from the earth.

Mount Fuji Climbers

National Geographic Society

The mystic appeal of Japan's Mount Fuji attracts 100,000 climbers a year.

The climbing season lasts from July 1 through August 31, the National Geographic Society says. As many as 18,000 people have hiked up Fuji in one day.

During most of the year, Fuji's symmetrical slopes are covered with snow, and only experienced alpinists attempt to reach the top of the 12,388-foot quiescent volcano.

SACRED MOUNTAINS

Mountains are revered in Japan, and Fujiyama ("yama" means mountain) is the most sacred of all. The graceful cone is venerated by Buddhists and Shintoists alike.

An 8th-century poet wrote: "Lo! There towers the lofty peak of Fuji... It baffles the tongue, it cannot be named. It is a god mysterious."

The mountain was regarded as the intermediate stage between earth and heaven, but it wasn't until the 15th century that pilgrimages became popular. Women were barred from Fujiyama until 1868.

Pilgrims find that ascending Mount Fuji is an arduous but infinitely rewarding experience. "He who toils up Fuji is a fool—but a worse fool not to have done so," a proverb says. It is not uncommon for a village to select a representative to make the journey and offer prayers for the town.

Climbing Fujiyama thus has become highly formalized. Buddhist cultists, notably the Fujiko, try to make 33, 88, or 108 ascents, these being sacred numbers.

Several sects regard a horizontal circuit of the mountain as most meritorious. One makes the trip at the 8,400 - foot level in a clockwise direction. Another cult circles counterclockwise.

Some pilgrims struggle upward bearing oversize ax blades and sabers to deposit in shrines. Others are burdened only with ceremonial sake cups to leave at prescribed places.

Climbers carry kongozuye, which are long wooden canes, as an aid to body and conscience. Fuji priests burn brands into the sticks to certify the ascent.

Though part of the trip may be made on bus and horseback, the conquest of Fuji is not easy. Many hikers engage "strong-pull men," who give them boosts and spur them on with cadenced cries of "Choo-Joo" ("Sum - MIT"), the Japanese equivalent of "Excelsior."

Once at the top, pilgrims visit shrines. Those whose journey was not motivated by religion, patronize a row of souvenir shops. Other secular touches at the top of Mount Fuji are a television antenna, a weather station, and 26 public telephones.

The rim of the crater is a wasteland of lava and volcanic debris. Fuji has erupted 17 times in recorded Japanese history, the last time in 1707-08 when it deposited six inches of ash on Tokyo, 75 miles away.

The last eruption pitted the near-perfect cone with a small crater. This so annoyed the Japanese, who regarded the mountain as a national symbol, that painters of Fuji seldom repro-

Over-Sized Plan

Winnipeg Free Press

Since they were an accepted means of land transportation in this country there has been a marked increase in the price of Red River carts. Certainly this is so if there is any validity to the recent annnouncement made by the Manitoba Travel and Convention Association.

The association plans to have four Red River carts built to grace the main highway entrances to Winnipeg in time for Canada's centennial in 1967 — at a cost of $5,000 each. The news will make some long gone oldtimers turn over in their graves. Many of these who owned their own Red River carts never saw $5,000 in their lives.

The fact that the association's plan calls for their carts to be double life-size explain part of the price-increase, as may the fact that the cost of skilled labor to make them has appreciated since pioneer days. But the thought persists that the association, if it pays the price suggested, is being taken for a centennial cart-ride in more Saskatchewan, with the cooperation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, already has a number of Red River carts as highway markers, but it had the good sense to have them made life-size rather than out-size, and got them for about a fifth of what the Manitoba association is contemplating paying.

A regulation-size Red River cart has a wheel diameter of five feet six inches, is twelve feet long, and has a cart-bed six feet in length and three feet in width. Besides being a true replica of the original carts, this ought to be big enough to be seen by anyone except the most myopic; and if the excellent Saskatchewan experience is anything to go by, it can be produced at a cost that, if high compared with costs in pioneering days, would be a considerable saving over that which the association has announced.

The association's plan is a good one but, like its proposed carts and their price, a bit ov-

Pagets' Disease Effects Bones

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

BONE IS hard but it is not like stone. It is alive, active, and changing continuously. Its chemical constituents (calcium and phosporus) are lost and replaced constantly, depending upon the needs of the body.

Various diseases follow a disturbed growth pattern of bone. Now and then the manifestations are unusual and puzzling. For example, a 60-year-old man consulted a physician because has head was getting larger; his hats no longer fit and he had to buy a larger size.

The physician made a few inquiries and, within a short time, came up with the diagnosis. The man was suffering from Paget's disease (osteitis deformans), a condition in which bones undergo softening and then became hardened again. The head enlarges because there is an overgrowth of new bone.

The chances are more definite when the weight bearing structures are involved. The bones of the legs, for example, curve when the individual bears weight during the softening period. They look as though they had been bent by the hands of a giant.

Osteitis deformans was described more than 85 years ago by Sir James Paget and often is called by his name. The victim's appearance in the advanced stage is characteristic. He acquires a short, squat figure with bent shoulders and a curved back that supports a large, forward hanging head. He waddles along with bowed legs on out turned toes.

The disease frequently is confined to one or two bones, usually the shin and skull. The cause is not known and treatment is unsatisfactory. It is slowly progressive but does not shorten life. It is better for the afflicted person to remain active.

The corticosteroids and special synthetic sex hormones help decrease bone resorption. Large doses of ascorbic acid (vitamin C) may relieve pain produced by the weakened structures. Milk is helpful because it supplies additional calcium and phosphorus.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

INHERENT WEAKNESS

I.A.C. writes: I have just gotten over a hernia operation on the right side. Is there any diet or exercise that will prevent developing a hernia on the left side?

REPLY

Not to my knowledge. Most people who develop a hernia have an inherent weakness in the groin. It is just a matter of time before a sufficient strain is encountered to create the bulge or protrusion. This may explan why some develop a hernia in childhood and others in middle age or late in life.

SPLASH, SPLASH

J.W. writes: What would cause the liquid in the stomach to splash around when I walk? Persons next to me hear it.

REPLY

A noisy stomach unusally means it contains more than the usual amount of air, allowing fluids to splash back and forth. The sound is louder when the stomach is close to the diaphragm, which acts as a sounding board.

KIDNEY STONES

N.S.G. writes: Is an operation absolutely necessary for kidney stones?

REPLY

No. The majority are small enough to pass through the urinary tract — a painful process, I might add. The larger stones must be removed, especially when they obstruct the flow of urine or encourage infection of the kidneys.

LUNG EDEMA

C.M. writes: What causes water to gather in the lungs?

REPLY

Dropsy from heart disease is the most common cause. Other possibilities include infection (pleurisy), certain kidney disorders, and starvation.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Give yourself a mental purge every now and then.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(September 18, 1937)

Dr. Wendell MacDonald, MB, C.M., who graduated recently at Edinburgh University, sails for Canada today. Dr. Macdonald has been practising as locum tenens in Hornsea, East Yorks, England.

Storm-tossed for 16 hours, the diesel - powered freighter Gilly, of Sarnia, Ont., was abandoned late yesterday off Goderich. Her six-man crew, including Oscar Haywood, wheelsman from Prince Edward Island, was rescued.

TEN YEARS AGO
(September 18, 1952)

The long - awaited day for farmers here has arrived, and this morning the annual Queens County Plowing Match will be staged on the home farm of J. Layton Jones and son, Pownal. The official opening will take place at 10.30 with Premier J. Walter Jones officiating. The event is being held on his birthplace and early home.

Stan McCabe, Charlottetown, was the winner of the Mabon Drug Co. prize of $10 worth of fishing gear, awarded to the fisherman who brought in the biggest trout, landed in Kings County, during the season.

KILL 11 REDS

SAIGON (Reuters) — South Viet Nam forces killed 11 Communist guerrillas during a weekend clash about 40 miles northeast of here. Military sources said the government forces lost seven men killed and

NOTES BY THE WAY

Two small city boys were out hunting in the woods and one of them stopped and picked up a chestnut burr. "Tommy!" he called excitedly. "Come here! I've found a porcupine egg!"— Montreal Star.

As hunting season approaches, the National Safety League of Canada advises, "Treat every gun as if it was loaded." And every hunter.— Ottawa Journal.

A Scottish firm is manufacturing artificial stone in shades of green, daffodil, rose pink, coral red, black and white. For tartan buildings?— Ottawa Citizen.

Little Susan: Grandpa, were you in the Ark? Grandfather: Of course not. Little Susan: Then why weren't you drowned?— Galt Reporter.

A night school has been opened in Sheffield, Eng., to teach former cigarette smokers how to smoke a pipe. It is an outgrowth of the medical research reports linking cigarette smoking with lung cancer. Once students have conquered the problem of how to keep a pipe going with the minimum number of matches they could be given the advanced course. This requires instruction from winners of pipe-smoking contests who fill the bowl of their pipes once and smoke, and smoke, and

The Perfect Swing

Winnipeg Tribune

A few years ago a musical gem entitled It Don't Mean A Thing If You Ain't Got That Swing was the rage among the fox-trot set. With a title like that, the song should have become the golfer's anthem, but somehow it didn't.

This oversight should not be attributed to any idea of downgrading the importance of the swing in the speedy delivery of the ball from tee to cup. The correct swing has never ceased to engage the closest attention and exquisite care of serious golfers— which means, everyone but that fellow who wouldn't let you play through last Sunday.

The Golf Society of Great Britain has laid cash on the line to back up this concern. It has created a fund of £6,000 for an investigation of the ingredients of the perfect swing.

A team of three doctors and a ballistics expert has been assigned the task of determining precisely what these ingredients are.

The golf world will wait with bated breath for the findings of this noble enterprise. In theory, once the secret of the perfect swing has been cracked, even a duffer should be able to slap in holes-in-one.

But we have a sneaky feeling that, in practice, slices and hooks and wiffs will continue in epidemic proportions—even after the ballistics expert has explained it all. The proof is that our swing has been perfect for years— but not perfect enough to overcome malevolent clubs, elliptical balls and idiot greens.

Tax Probe Limited

Financial Post

Canada's antique tax system abundantly needs re- examination and the naming of a Royal Commission to study the federal tax structure and its impact on the economy is a first move of much importance.

But Royal commissioning is now a major Canadian industry involving months and years of the time of scores of organizations and hundreds of people. Indeed, Royal Commissioning is normally, or at least very frequently, a government device to avoid doing anything at all about the problems that require immense economic sophistication and high political courage. So the Canadian audience may well restrain its applause about the tax probe until it sees what is recommended — and what legislative use is made of the recommendations.

Limitations on what the commission can conceivably do once again emphasize the fact that the Canadian constitution is a century - old document which, in many aspects is highly irrelevant to day's needs. Created by the federal government, the tax commission must largely restrict itself to investigating federal tax matters — and that is only half the great Canadian taxation mess. Provincil and municipal taxes together take a 13 per cent bite from Canada's gross national product. Federal taxes take a 17 per cent slice.

Certainly the Canadian public can expect, for its money, some very capable work from the Carter commission. But its restricted scope emphasizes the hard truth that it is upon our duly eleced governors that the responsibility falls for the really basic decisions that determine present well-being and future prosperity.

Suppressing 'Bad News"

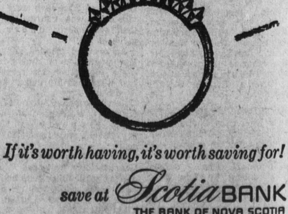
Sudbury Star

An oubreak of sleeping sickness hit the Florida resort area of St. Petersburg and the health department director said he had received many telephone calls critical of releasing figures on the outbreak to the news media. One director of the communicable disease division quit suddenly without comment and there was speculation he had been subjected to pressure by business and tourist interests.

The reaction of commercial interests to publication of the news is a natural one. A few years ago the cigaret manufacturers were pouring out counter-propaganda when medical reports showed an association between cigaret smoking and lung cancer. Daily interests are also upset if medical authorities suggested an association of fats from dairy products with heart or arterial disease. No one blames commercial interests for seeking to protect their business, but there can be no defence of the suppression of news.

Nor is this attempt to suppress adverse publicity confined to trade and commerce. It is found at various administrative levels in governments, boards, commissions and organizations which are set up to serve the public interest. The public interest is badly served if only the "good" things are given publicity.

The highest possible commendation goes to public officials, or persons in authority, who are not intimidated by pressure tactics to withold the "bad" things from the public. They are the ones who best serve the public interest and welfare."



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