

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Daily... W. J. Hancock, Publisher... Wallace Ward, Managing Editor... Frank Walker, Editor... Published every week day morning (except Sunday and statutory holidays) at 165 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd. Branch offices at Summerside, Montague, Alberton and Souris.

Civic Finances

A reminder of the fact that civic affairs have moved into the realm of big business was afforded at the annual meeting of the City Council last night. Civic expenditures for the year amounted to \$2,082,551, notwithstanding laudable efforts to keep within budgetary requirements, and even to trim budgets in various departments where this could be done without sacrifice to service or efficiency.

Nevertheless, the accounts show a deficit for the past year of \$23,668, and a net total debt at Dec. 31 last of \$7,830,692. This represents a debt increase of \$234,928 for the past year, which boils down to a per capita increase of \$12.85 over 1964. It represents total carrying charges in 1965 of \$745,553—the biggest item on the expenditures list.

Some idea of where the money goes may be gathered from the item of \$698,611, representing the cost to operate our city schools during the year, exclusive of teachers' salaries. As pointed out by His Worship, the decision of the board of governors of Prince of Wales College to discontinue grades XI and XII in 1966 and 1967 makes necessary the building of another high school, which is now under construction.

Representations have been made to the provincial government and it is hoped to obtain greater revenue consideration from this source. In any case, however, we may expect that education will continue to pose greater challenges to our taxpayers. It is doing so in every community across the country. It is simply not possible to ignore the demands education is making at this time, without sacrificing the future.

On the whole, it has been a good year from the business standpoint. Tax collections have been very satisfactory. New houses, new stores, Charlottetown's first shopping mall, were cited as examples of the prosperity we have enjoyed. The Council, in cooperation with the Board of Trade, is examining the possibilities of bringing in more businesses or expanding existing ones. Nevertheless, we would do well to heed the warning sounded by Finance Chairman MacNeill, who says the existing demand for services simply cannot be coped with under the present tax rate. If the city intends to grow it must be prepared to pay the price. The only sources of civic revenue are taxes and government grants. And on both levels, it would seem, the coffers need re-

Mr. Johnson's Move

By simply flying from Washington to Honolulu to discuss the Viet Nam war with South Vietnamese leaders, President Johnson took the spotlight away from the full-scale war policy hearings now being conducted by the Senate foreign relations committee under Senator Fulbright, a severe critic of U.S. involvement in the current campaign. It would be unthinkable for a government leader in Canada or Britain to make a move of this kind, and it illustrates in striking manner the enormous powers the U.S. President wields.

The occasion for the Senate committee sessions was the President's request for \$415 million in additional economic aid authority for the remainder of the current fiscal year. About \$275 million of that sum is ear-

marked for South Viet Nam Chairman Fulbright told reporters at a closed session last week that both critics and supporters of the resumption of bombing would be questioned at public hearings continuing into this week. It was after the committee began debating his policies that Mr. Johnson announced his travel plans at a hastily called press conference. Defense Secretary McNamara and General Maxwell Taylor—now a special adviser to the President—were accompanying him, and would not be available as key witnesses.

It was explained at the White House that the Honolulu meetings were discussed in detail last September, and that there had been tentative agreement for Mr. Johnson to go there, probably in October, but he had to undergo surgery at that time. We imagine that in the eyes of the Senate committee, this was a pretty lame excuse for ignoring its inquiry. It didn't help matters that the President, on his arrival in Honolulu, sounded off against "special pleaders who counsel retreat in Viet Nam," denouncing them as "a group that has always been blind to experience and deaf to hope."

Of chief concern to the committee, and to the nation at large, is the resumption of bombing in North Viet Nam and the prospects of this action developing into the opening round of what could be a third catastrophic world war. The long-range gravity of the situation is seen by many informed observers, including James Reston of the New York Times, who talks of the U.S. having embarked on what may well be 30 years of war.

But, as Mr. Reston concedes, something important has happened in America since Woodrow Wilson went to his grave believing that the President of the United States was paralyzed in the foreign field by the overwhelming power of Congress and public opinion. The situation has changed dramatically in the last generation. The balance of power has shifted very definitely to the presidency; and no one is more aware of this fact, or has had more to do with bringing it about, than Lyndon Baines Johnson.

How's That Again?

Following the federal-provincial conference on medicare last week, it was indicated that this province may have to start modestly with a limited plan which would take care of about 12 per cent of our population. This would cover old age pensioners, disabled persons and other recipients of various types of provincial assistance. It would represent, as Mr. Wedge said, a start, and would get us into the medical care field. The broader universal medicare plan could then come later. This, in view of our limited resources, impressed us as a very sensible approach to the problem. But does Ottawa so regard it, and can we expect federal assistance in putting it into effect?

We seem to have gotten a very definite answer in the negative to this question, in a statement reportedly made before a caucus of Ontario Liberals last week by Federal Health Minister MacEachen. He made it "crystal clear," we are told, that there would be no watering-down of the federal government's criteria defining coverage. Some caucus members had privately expressed fears that Mr. MacEachen and Finance Minister Sharp might eventually be willing to settle for less than universal coverage. But the caucus grapevine reports both these gentlemen as denying this emphatically.

Ottawa has offered to pay each province that participates half the national average per capita cost—a grant estimated at between \$17 and \$18, possibly more. To qualify, provincial plans must provide universal coverage, comprehensive services, portability between provinces and be operated by the government or a non-profit agency. Because Ontario intends to charge premiums, Ottawa has agreed that something less than 100 per cent coverage will be allowed. But that would not solve our difficulty. The precise figure acceptable to the government would range between 95 and 98 per cent.

It would appear, from this, that we shall have to finance our proposed limited project on our own—in addition, of course, to helping, as taxpayers, in financing the universal scheme for the provinces that can afford to get into it from the start. Not a very pleasant prospect, or a very equitable one!

EDITORIAL NOTE

Cuba may not be on speaking terms with our American neighbors, but it will have a \$300,000 pavilion at the Montreal World's Fair. Two Italian architects have won a contest to design the structure.



KEEPING YOUR HAT TIED DOWN

MASTERING THE WEATHER

Research Now Clearly Mapped Out

It is breathtaking to realize that at least partial control of weather and climate is within humanity's grasp. Yet the National Academy of Sciences and the National Science Foundation both say that such control now is clearly mapped out. Over the next few decades, men will begin to tame vast atmospheric energies that have ranged unchecked since the earth was formed four and a half billion years ago. This presents an awesome challenge. To quote the National Science Foundation, "In pursuing means to modify weather and climate man assumes the character of a force of nature. Man will have to adopt that character with great caution. Wrong or ignorant action could do far-reaching damage."

Not Cleared For Therapy

Although Krebiozen is not legally available in Canada, both laymen and physicians are interested in the verdict of a grand jury in Chicago which acquitted its proponents after a nine-month trial. It is important to keep in mind that the jury's unexpected finding did not establish that Krebiozen was in fact efficacious in the treatment of cancer. Its discoverer, Dr. Stevan Durovic, and Dr. Andrew Ivy and other members of the Krebiozen Research Foundation were acquitted on charges of mail fraud and conspiracy. They got the benefit of doubt.

Classic In Its Simplicity

The idea was classic in its simplicity: take an English-speaking high school student, and send him or her for two weeks to the home of a French-speaking student. Then send both of them to stay with the English-Canadian family for a further two weeks. Last summer alone 2,000 English and French students participated in such exchanges; the goal is 5,000 by 1967. The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, of which Royal Bank of Canada President W. Earle McLaughlin is special gifts chairman, organizes the visits. Their purpose is to awaken the younger generation of Canadians to the variety of language, culture, and custom that make Canada an exciting and a difficult place to live.

Our Yesterdays

Twenty-five years ago (February 8, 1941), Earl Lund and Frederick Phillips, both charged with murder in connection with the death of Peter J. Trainor, were committed to stand trial at the June term of the Supreme Court by Stipendiary Magistrate K. M. Martin at the conclusion of the preliminary hearing. The regular meeting of the Kinsmen Club was held at the Charlottetown Hotel, with Arthur Wright in the chair. The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. E.T. Higgs, Provincial chairman of War Savings Committee.

TEN YEARS AGO

Suzanne Francis and Mary Elaine Trainor, representing St. Dunstan's University, upheld the affirmative of a debate to defeat a team from St. Mary's University composed of Fred Vaughan and Bernie Murphy of Halifax. The Federal-Provincial Agricultural Council concluded its annual three-day session Mr. G.C. D'Warren was named president for the year 1966.

Repair Of Hernias

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Surgery is the only cure for a hernia. Failures may occur in some older cases because the tissues are too weak and fragile to hold stitches. Large hernias and surgical failures can be patched with tantalum mesh or with fibrous tissue removed from the fascia of the person's leg. Trustees are second choice because they offer temporary relief.

This summarizes the treatment for hernia, the "rupture" that bothers an estimated 10 per cent of our population. Modern surgical techniques have made this a safe 45-minute procedure and the patient is out of bed the same evening and home in a few days.

The abdominal cavity is lined with a pearly white tough membrane, (peritoneum). The organs are contained within this balloon and at various points tubes penetrate the lining leaving potentially weak spots. These include the esophagus that links the mouth and stomach, vestiges of the umbilical cord through which we received nourishment prior to birth, the femoral arteries on their way to the legs, and the spermatic cords that transport sperm cells from the testes.

A hernia may develop at any of these spots provided the openings were sealed off improperly. The inguinal hernia, the most common type, usually is found in men. The testes of the unborn male are in the abdomen and descend to the outside via the inguinal canal shortly before birth. The canal usually closes tightly but in many men the seal is absent or it is weak.

In some, the area bulges on standing or straining due to the pressure of the abdominal organs. The weakened area gives way in others when coughing, straining or lifting a heavy object. The protrusion is small at first, but may enlarge in time. The sac usually contains loops of the intestine.

The hernia is a potential source of danger. When the opening is small and a loop of intestine gets into the sac but cannot get out, strangulation occurs. The small opening pinches off the blood supply and unless surgery is done the bowel becomes gangrenous.

HEART MURMUR I.L. writes: My seven-year-old daughter has a functional or innocent heart murmur. Just what is this and is there cause for alarm?

REPLY No. The innocent murmurs are caused by the heart rubbing against the lungs or chest wall. Similar sounds stem from changes in the hemodynamics of the blood flow through the heart.

PREGNANCY POSSIBILITY N.F. writes: I am 50 years old and contemplating remarriage. My youngest child is 29 and I have been a widow for four years. Is it still possible for me to become pregnant? At my stage in life, who could be interested? Your answer may be a deciding factor.

REPLY The chance is negligible.

INFLAMED BURSA B.E. writes: I have bursitis of the right shoulder. I did not hurt myself in that area and wonder how I could have developed the condition.

REPLY Bursitis is thought to result from a culmination of repeated irritations throughout the years rather than from one injury.

SPINAL ARTHRITIS K.G. writes: What is Marie-Strauppell's disease?

REPLY This is another name for theumatoid spondylitis which, in the beginning is partial to the sacroileal joints.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—Free yourself from resentments. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

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Plain Good Fun

According to Variety, the show business Bible which enjoyed its 80th birthday this month, three of the films which were released in 1965 are likely to place among the top five moneymakers of all time. The three are Mary Poppins, The Sound of Music and My Fair Lady. Mary Poppins has already grossed \$36,500,000 in Canadian - U.S. rentals and has a potential of \$33,000,000. The Sound of Music has drawn \$30,000,000 and has a potential of \$33,000,000, and My Fair Lady has grossed \$19,000,000 and Variety wouldn't even guess at its potential.

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