The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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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.

Represented nationally by Thomson Newspapers Advertising Services, Toronto, 425 University Ave. Empire 3-8894; Montreal, 640 Cathcart Street University 6-5942, Western Office, 1030 West Georgia Street, Vancouver (MA 7037).

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Not over 35c per week by carrier.

$12.00 a year by mail or rural routes and areas not serviced by carrier.

$15.00 a year off Island and U.K. $20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.

Not over 7c single copy.

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With Reservations

In adopting a resolution supporting a distinctive flag for Canada the Association of Canadian Clubs is believed to have become the first national body to have taken this position, and there is no doubt its action will help smooth the way for the Pearson Government in obtaining acceptance of its maple leaf design. Since the Government has made this a key issue in the larger question of promoting national unity, one can well understand the laudable motives behind the Association's resolution, which was adopted without a dissenting voice and after a minimum of discussion.

It is important, however, to keep in mind that Parliament has not made a decision in this matter, and that the debate on the subject, which is now scheduled for next week, will find many Opposition members voicing strong criticism of the procedure that is being followed.

They will likely be in a minority; and they will be expected, after the vote is taken, to bow to the will of the majority and accept the result without further question. But in the meantime it is their right to express their views, without incurring any reflection as to their lack of concern for the national unity that Mr. Pearson talks so much about.

These members, we believe, will be speaking for a lot of Canadians who have grave reservations about the manner in which this issue has been foisted on the country, regardless of their views about the respective merits of the flag emblems. They are concerned, as the Montreal Gazette points out, about the method of selecting the flags by a cabinet decision, about the introduction of the flag as a party matter and the disappearance of all hope of a free vote in Parliament by the Government's decision to stand or fall by the outcome. There is dissatisfaction by many with the absence in the new flag of anything representing the historic traditions of the country; by many favorable to a distinctive flag with the quality of the design chosen, and with the idea of two official flags for different purposes.

These are legitimate objections, and it is well that they should be expressed. Forcing them to an issue at the polls, of course, would be another matter. But that doesn't justify the hectoring tone adopted by Mr. Pearson towards his opponents, in charging them with the "onus and responsibility" of making this decision. It is he, after all, who has insisted on the alternative of an election on this highly emotional and divisive issue.

The Professional Touch

Perhaps there is such a thing as politicians acquiring too much of the professional touch. Few Canadians, at any rate, are likely to become such smooth performers as U.S. President Johnson, whose efforts to reach "every possible citizen" in a personal way is unequalled in the White House.

A Washington cartoonist the other day depicted a citizen walking to an outside phone booth. The phone began ringing and the citizen walked back and answered it. The voice came through the ear piece: "This is Lyndon Johnson—I thought I might say a few words in case you missed me on television."

And it is literally true that a citizen can hear the President speak over the telephone almost any time he wishes. The Democratic national committee has provided a phone which sends out recorded statements by their leader. By dialing 333-8260 in Washington, anyone can hear the President with parts of his last public speech or statement.

The idea actually is to provide radio stations around the country with a quick way to record part of the day's political speeches by "beefing up" their news programs. The Democrats call it "Instant Telephone News Service." But anyone can dial the number and get the message. And, of course, it will have a tendency to make the citizen at the receiving end feel more important. Maybe that's the way President Johnson hopes it will work, at any rate.

To Visit Germany

Much interest has been aroused by the announcement from Buckingham Palace that Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip have accepted, "with much pleasure," an invitation to visit West Germany next year. This will be the first state visit of a British Sovereign to Germany since before the First World War, and in many ways it will be one of the most significant journeys undertaken by the Queen since she came to the throne.

Although Britain has officially indorsed the policy of rapprochement with Germany since its inception, British public opinion has been much more cautious. These reservations were more pronounced among members and supporters of the Labor Party than among Conservatives. But German and British socialist leaders have themselves exchanged visits during the past nine months. Happily, many of the misgivings arising out of wartime memories are melting away.

Significance is seen in the fact that by the time of the Queen's visit to Bonn next year, the British voters might well have put a Labor government into power at Westminster. In any case, there is no doubt that the whole free world will benefit from a strengthening of Anglo-German relations, such as this visit is calculated to promote.

Shastri's First Task

India's new Prime Minister, Lal Badadur Shastri, has been described as "a tiny, baby-faced man with an angelic smile," and he is known as a supreme conciliator. Strength and speed of decision are not considered to be among his many attributes, but he has shown evidence of them by announcing, shortly after his election, that he would meet Pakistan's president during the Commonwealth prime ministers' conference in London next month and would "pick up the thread of Nehru's talks" with the Kashmir leader this week, with a view to reaching a settlement over an issue which has plagued relations between India and Pakistan for a long time.

Coming from Mr. Nehru's state of Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Shastri has an unblemished record of service to his party, to his state legislature and government, and finally to the federal government, in which he has variously served as minister of transport, commerce and industry, and home affairs. He resigned as home minister last year, only to be called back by Nehru early in 1964. Since this time his achievements have centred around the defreezing of the Kashmir situation.

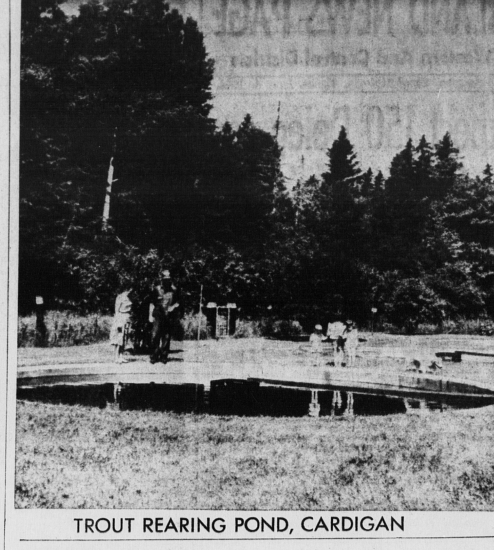
This is a dispute that must be settled, if a repetition is to be avoided of the ghastly slayings of Hindus in Pakistan and Moslems in India that occurred only a few months ago.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There were 4,410 British citizens among the 17,546 immigrants admitted to Canada during the first three months of 1964. The figures were up from 3,204 out of a total of 13,410 in the first quarter of 1963.

* * *

There is no iron curtain in frigid Antarctica, and Russian and American scientific operations are going on there in complete harmony. The scientists are authorized to visit each other "at any time" under the south polar treaty, now nearly five years old, which prohibits military activities and puts a premium on "frank, helpful and courteous" cooperation.



TROUT REARING POND, CARDIGAN

NUCLEAR TALK

We'll All Have To Get Used To It

Neal Stanford in The Christian Science Monitor

The Atomic Energy Commission has just put out a 37 page glossary of nuclear terms that should be invaluable to any student, teacher, writer, on nuclear matters.

The nice thing is that actually every student, teacher, writer can have one (and free) just by writing to the United States Atomic Energy Commission, P.O. Box 62, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (Zip Code 37831).

It has apparently been obvious to the Atomic Energy Commission that some such reference guide was needed for the news reporters who try to keep up with atomic energy developments. The AEC won't say that a lot of news stories on nuclear affairs have been less than accurate. But their voluntary gift of a brief glossary of nuclear terms to all science writers in the capital indicates what they may be thinking.

I do not want to deprive any reader of the excitement and pleasure in learning this new language of nuclear power himself. However, there are some terms that are really basic and cause no end of confusion unless clearly understood.

For example, a "barn" it appears, is not for cows, horses, or chickens, but "a very small unit of area used in measuring the cross-sections of atoms, nuclei, electrons and other particles." One "barn", it says, is equal to 10 with the exponent — 24 of a square centimeter.

Then there is the word "cave" — normally a place where you discover buried treasure — or hide out from your parents. But in nuclear talk it means a "hot cell" — a hot cell being "A heavily shielded enclosure in which radioactive materials can be handled remotely through the use of manipulators ..."

Another term that this glossary clears up is the word "dollar." Today's dollar may not be what it used to be — but a nuclear dollar has no semblance to anything printed by the United States Mint. In nuclear talk, a "dollar" is a unit of reactivity — one dollar being the amount of reactivity in a reactor due to delayed neutrons alone.

Then there is the word "excursion" — nominally something families — or sight-seers go on. But if you use that word in nuclear circles it means "a sudden, very rapid rise in the power level of a reactor caused by supercriticality."

One even has to be careful how one used the word "hot" when talking to nuclear people. Should you say "gee, I'm hot" — they might think you meant you were "highly radioactive."

A "pi" may be a four-legged slab of bacon in most people, but not to the nuclear scientist. To him a "pic" is "a heavily shielded container used to ship or store radioactive materials."

Pluto and Rover are not names for dogs — but AEC programs.

"Q" is not a letter in the alphabet, but "a unit used to express very large energy figures — one Q equaling one billion billion BTUs."

"Scram" does not mean "to beat it" — it means "the sudden shutdown of a nuclear reactor."

Actually these are only the easiest, and possibly commonest, of the unnerving words appearing in this glossary. It is full of definitions of such terms as "meson," "hyperon," "pico" and "cooling."

If you think you can avoid nuclear talk and atomic energy matters this little book is not for you; but if you want, you need it. At least I do.

And, remember, it's free.

That Thin Red Line

Montreal Gazette

The minor conflict now taking place in Southern Arabia between Yemeni tribesmen and British forces has raised the question whether Britain has any justifiable reason for remaining in this area, and, in particular, for maintaining its military base at Aden.

The question is usually discussed in terms of British oil interests. It is said that if Britain moves out, Egypt will extend President Nasser's influence in the Middle East would be greatly extended, and he might find himself in a position to cut off Britain's oil supplies, if he wished.

It is, perhaps, possible to refute this argument. It can be said that this type of colonialism is a relic of the past, and can scarcely be continued for many years under any circumstances.

It can also be said that oil supplies would not be in danger since President Nasser would never cut them off.

There is, however, an additional factor that is not often discussed. The British base at Aden is part of a chain extending from Gibraltar to Singapore establishing a swift air communications route from Europe to the Far East. At a time when the Far East is in turmoil, and when the only Western advantage, relative to China, is air and sea power, it might be extremely unwise to break this communications chain.

This seems to be the view of the American Secretary of Defence, Mr. McNamara. He is supposed to have said that if he had to choose between having British troops east of Suez, or fulfilling all their obligations in Europe, he would choose the former.

In an age when there is no longer an empire to protect this chain of bases may be losing its purpose. But it would seem wise to maintain it at least until some form of stability has been brought to Southeast Asia. This factor, as well as the question of protecting oil interests, need to be remembered.

Needs An Overhaul

Guelph Mercury

Spring has brought its usual surge in employment and with it recurrent near-bankruptcy of the Unemployment Insurance fund appears to have eased. But its ghost can be expected to return to haunt us again next winter.

For a number of years, and under successive governments, the whole unemployment insurance system has fallen short of requirements. It is not enough to blame the free-loaders who avoid work, or married women who drain it through payments during pregnancy "unemployment". It is so that the fund is grossly disabused, a the Gill commission reported two years ago. These abuses need to be eliminated. Mr. Diefenbaker failed to take necessary remedial action and Mr. Pearson to date has followed suit.

The unemployment insurance program was well conceived. It has been allowed — by both major parties — to degenerate into a political handout to undeserving minorities, to the jeopardy of the system and of the legitimately unemployed majorities who look to it for succor during times of stress.

Even eliminating the alleged unemployed will not be enough. It seems apparent that in periods of recurrent unemployment, proper demands on the fund will eclipse its buildup in periods of strength. Job displacement during regional economic shifts or nation-wide as a result of automation remain with us. Thus Canada today has more than half a million jobless in the face of a near-boom.

If the UIF cannot support itself, cannot pay its way in current national prosperity, how can it serve its real purpose in the event of a cyclical recession? To have revenues adequate to the national need, assessments on both employees and employers may have to be increased. As it is, the taxpayers at large are being imposed upon, every time the UIF has to be bailed out.

West's Right Royal Party

Ottawa Journal

Twenty-five years ago as the Spring turned into Summer, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were in Western Canada, and the royal progress which had delighted Eastern Canada assumed a fairy-tale atmosphere. The West was in the mood for wonder. In that Spring of 1939 it did seem, as the crop went in, that the drought was lifting after dusty years of poverty.

Farmers left their fields with hope revived. Women of town or village or farm felt they could buy a new hat to wear for the King. Children found the military bands a thrilling substitute for the dry whistle of the wind on the homestead. For them all, the Royal visit was a bright ribbon of romance.

Ottawa sees many a procession. Toronto has ceremonials and Montreal the gaiety of holiday occasions but out on the plains there had never been anything like this before. Whose heart would fail to lift at the knowledge the ruling King and his beautiful Queen were down there on the local railway platform talking with Bill Smith the mayor, the Legion boys and the hospital nurses?

The flags flew, the bag pipes played, the Sunday School choir performed and when their Majestie went away, with everyone singing "Will Ye No Come Back Again?" in full voice, the community celebrations continued.

Allergies And Asthma

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Most children with asthma are allergic to foods, medicines, or pollens or other inhalants. Now and then the attack follows a cold or bronchitis, suggesting that infection is responsible. Wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath are easily controled, but the cause must be found and removed to bring permanent relief.

A complete allergy survey may be necessary to uncover the culprit. This includes a detailed history of the child's problem, along with a reasonable number of skin tests. The tests should be confined to those having a bearing on his condition. There is no need to check a 5 - year - old for sensitivity to chewing tobacco, coffee, or tea.

Avoidance of the offenders is the first recommendation. Pets have no place in the home of an allergic child, especially when he is sensitive to animal danger. Nonessential dust collectors should be removed, including wool blankets, stuffed toys, rugs, fabric draperies, and upholstered chairs.

Molds are common allergens and are suspected when the child lives in an old damp house. Pollens come to mind if the attacks are seasonal. Industrial dusts also must be considered.

The antibiotics are used when infection is the cause. In some cases, removal of diseased tonsils and adenoids if followed by improvement of asthma.

When it is not possible to remove the causative agents, the physician usually gives the youngster a series of injections to make him less sensitive. In time the boy or girl may become sensitive to other inhalants, foods, or chemicals. Asthma returns unless prophylactic treatments are started as soon as this new allergy is discovered.

SORE FEET

G. M. A. writes: Every Sunday I take a 6 - mile hike without tiring. But the balls of my feet become sore and tender and stay that way for a few days. What do you think is the cause?

REPLY

The transverse (metatarsal) arch may be strained or you may have the same soreness that most sedentary workers get when they walk miles once a week.

INHALED FUNGUS

P. M. writes: I understand histoplasmosis is caused by a fungus. How is it caught? Can it spread to other members of the household?

REPLY

This fungus is found in dust and is inhaled when blown into the air. Chicken houses, areas contaminated by bat or bird dung, and caves are more likely to harbor the organisms.

BED SORES

I. T. writes: What is the best treatment for infected bedsores?

REPLY

Remove pressure from the sore by turning the patient frequently and placing around the inflamed area a doughnut air ring or a pad made of sheepskin or manmade fibers. The infection is controled with antiseptics and strict cleanliness.

PRESSURE TAKING

M. G. writes: In your article on high blood pressure, you said someone in the family should learn how to take readings. Where does a layman go for such training?

REPLY

To his physician.

LEARNING TO READ

E. M. writes: How do you learn to read a thermometer?

REPLY

Ask your physician or drug-gist to show you. Directions sometimes are printed on the label.

Today's Health Hint—

Trim off visible fat before cooking meat.

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

The Controversial Jordan

National Geographic Society

The peaceful waters of the Jordan River may be the well-spring of fresh trouble in the Middle East.

Israelis are completing a 100-mile-long canal and pipeline system to channel water from the upper Jordan to the parched Negev in the south. The irrigation scheme hopefully will fulfill an Old Testament prophecy that the barren wilderness will someday bloom.

But Arab nations, which also share the Jordan's vital waters, threaten reprisals if and when the first drop of water is diverted.

MORE LIKE STREAM

Ironically, the controversial Jordan is not much compared to other waterways: It is only 200 miles long and a few yards wide in places. The twisting, silt-laden stream, however, is still the life blood of Middle East nations with arid lands to irrigate and growing populations to settle.

The famed river of the Holy Land begins, appropriately, at a sacred grove high on the snowy slopes of 9,232-foot Mount Hermon of the Syrian-Lebanese border. The young river tumbles down to Israel's swampy Lake Huleh and on to the Sea of Galilee (Tiberias) whose waters Christ traditionally walked upon.

Modern Israeli fishing fleets with electronic sounding gear work the sea where Christ's disciples cast their nets.

The river then snakes through the 65-mile-long Jordan Valley, cutting an ever-deeper channel before dumping its precious waters in the salty Dead Sea. Though lifeless, the sea yields valuable potash for fertilizer as well as magnesium, sodium, and calcium.

Much of the Jordan Valley is barren today. Where goats gnaw vegetation off the hills, rain brings flood and erosion. Locusts periodically swarm across the plains, devouring every blade of grass. the few fertile patches remain in the north where Israeli farmers cultivate lava-rich soil.

ONCE TROPICAL GARDEN

In the distant past, the Jordan Valley bloomed like an Eden. Prehistoric men hunted elephants, rhinos, and hippos in the green thickets along the river's edge.

Early dwellers in the Holy Land understood irrigation, according to archeologists. Some 2,000 years before Christ, farm villages thrived even in the now-barren Negev.

Abraham's nephew, Lot, said the Jordan plain "was well watered everywhere — even as the Garden of the Lord."

Though without majesty or grandeur, the Jordan River remains sacred to Jew, Christian, and Moslem. St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan near Jericho. Ancient Israelites weary from years of desert wandering, looked at long last upon the Promised Land across the river valley. Prophet Mohammed preached and spread the word of Allah up and down the Jordan's winding banks.

Canada & British Guiana

By Russell Elman
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canada has a vital interest in any move to end violent disorders in British Guiana whether or not she becomes directly involved in efforts to solve the complex racial and political conflict in the British colony.

Some of the worst of the latest outbreaks of murder and arson have been in the neighborhood of the Canadian-owned Demerara Bauxite Company at Mackenzie, one of the largest industrial enterprises in the country.

Canada's interest in British Guiana is also reflected in the appointment of a Canadian commissioner in Georgetown in mid-March. He is Milton Gregg, a former Liberal labor minister.

Dr. Eric Williams, prime minister of neighboring independent Trinidad and Tobago, appears to be a vital link in seeking to reconcile differences between East Indian and African racial groups, aggravated by political antagonisms. British Guiana Premier Cheddi Jagan and opposition leaders have been to Trinidad in recent weeks at Dr. Williams' invitation.

QUESTION DISCUSSED

Earlier in the year in Jamaica, Commonwealth Caribbean heads of government discussed the British Guiana question. Dr. Jagan said they held the view that an attempt should be made in the Caribbean by Caribbean leaders to solve the issue.

When the Trinidad prime minister was in Ottawa in April Caribbean area problems were discussed with Canadian leaders. Afterwards he hinted at possible closer Canadian involvement in the region but spelled out no details of his thinking. British Guiana was not specifically mentioned in public.

In October, a report from London referred to the "approaching possibility" that Commonwealth Relations Secretary Duncan Sandys would found out the Canadian government on keeping the peace in British Guiana after it gained independence.

Premier Jagan was said to be interested in the idea that other Commonwealth countries might send contingents to teach local Guianese troops how to maintain internal security.

Another suggestion put forward by British Guiana's premier is for neutralization of his country. Last year he proposed that major world powers guarantee the territorial integrity, independence and neutrality for British Guiana as they did for Austria.

The British Guiana question may also come up at the Commonwealth prime ministers' meeting in London next month, when Southern Rhodesia is expected to be a controversial topic.

Dr. Jagan has accused Britain of applying one yardstick for dealing with Southern Rhodesia, a self-governing colony with a white dominated government, and another for British Guiana, also internally self - governing but ruled by colored politicians.

Elections are scheduled for this fall, based on a new proportional representation system —Britain's proposal for removing racial conflict from the political arena. The vote would precede steps towards outright independence.

Meanwhile, Britain has sent additional troops to the colony, but officials feel that a political solution has to be the answer.

De Gaulle and D-Day

Christian Science Monitor

A prophet, de Gaulle might say, is never without critics, and that does not except his own country. The Paris newspaper Figaro has been deploring the decision of the French President to stay away from the observances of the 20th anniversary of the D-Day landing on the Normandy beaches.

These are to be held June 6. Since they were the key to the liberation of France and the triumphant return of de Gaulle to his homeland, it has seemed to many fellow countrymen and other Europeans that his absence will be unfortunately conspicuous.

They are right. Bigger than all the strains between de Gaulle and the American and British chiefs in wartime and the fact of common victory and the preservation of Western freedom.

Now the question arises whether de Gaulle — so big a man in many ways — is as big as what is to be commemorated on June 6. The French Government explains that de Gaulle will not be present because other heads of state will not be.

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