

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The De... W. J. Hancock, Publisher... Published every week day morning (except Sunday and statutory holidays) at 165 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1963

A Man Of Gumption

Premier John Robarts has added to his stature by recent statements he has made on various matters of prime concern to the Canadian public. The Ontario premier is, of course, a Conservative, but that hasn't prevented him from coming out, in opposition to his federal party leader, for a two-year truce on partisan bickering in the House of Commons until the new minority government gets a chance to show its capabilities.

Mr. Robarts points out that there is more to our constitution than the British North America Act. We share a background of custom and precedent which goes into the common law heritage of English-speaking peoples. Canadians are indeed a blend of many strains. Our constitution is partly written, partly unwritten. It has shown a remarkable capacity for development to meet changing conditions.

Again, in an address to food industry leaders in Toronto the other day, Mr. Robarts struck an invigorating note. He deplored Canadians' lack of self confidence and suggested that they have but themselves to blame for trade imbalances in food and manufactured products and for the lamented massive inflow of foreign investment capital. Rather than self-pity and hand-wringing, he proposed that Canadian business raise its sights and get out and compete on the world market.

This is a far cry from the traditional high-tariff demands that we have heard so often from Ontario quarters. Mr. Robarts sees Canadian problems as a whole—not as a tug-of-war between the provinces and Ottawa, or between the province individually. We don't know whether he has ambitions to get into the federal Tory leadership race when Mr. Diefenbaker steps down; but he is shaping up, by his statements, as a sound man for the job.

For Limited Restraints

Prime Minister Pearson got a cool reception to his suggestion, some months ago, that the Viet Nam war be allowed to simmer down for a while. It was followed shortly by President Johnson's announcement of a stiffening in Washington's attitude, and by the escalation of the war which is now running at a cost to the United States of \$6 billion a year.

Mr. Kennan's proposal is that Washington allow its friends to seek means of cease fire and negotiation, and that it place "limited restraints" upon its military efforts as an earnest of its desire for honorable peace. He points out that there is no sign that the bombings have done more than make North Vietnam more determined, just as German

bombings stiffened the back of Britain in World War II.

He argues that the United States has many goals and problems besides Viet Nam. There were gains in establishing better relations with the Soviet Union and eastern Europe before escalation in Viet Nam. Now relations, at least with the Russians, steadily worsen and the two countries appear headed back into the cold war. The U.S., too, is losing the sympathy of its friends, and is building up criticism in the so-called neutral world.

Mr. Kennan recognizes that the United States has legitimate aims in this war, and that it cannot withdraw its forces at this stage; but neither can it pursue the war against an impoverished land on the present murderous scale without bringing greater disaster to Asia.

Few Americans want that to happen, nor can they view with equanimity the trend which events are taking. A year ago the United States had only a few thousand troops in Viet Nam, officially termed advisers. As recently as July, it had only 50,000 soldiers there. Today it has approximately 200,000 and more are promised. The estimates of the total number of troops who will be sent range from 280,000 to 600,000. This latter number would exceed the total of U.S. forces engaged in the Korean war at its peak; yet would even that suffice? Not if Communist China intervenes, as is most likely under further escalation.

Mr. Kennan concedes that letting things "simmer down" while intensive efforts are made to find a way out may not work. But he argues that it is the only alternative to a more disastrous gamble, and is at least worth a try. One can only hope that it will be given the consideration it merits on that ground.

Mr. Greene's Job

According to an Ottawa correspondent, Mr. Pearson considered three men in picking his new Minister of Agriculture—all of them Ontarians. They were Eugene Whelan (Essex South), Bruce Beer (Peel), and John J. Greene, a 45-year-old lawyer from Renfrew South. In choosing Mr. Greene, he chose the only one of the trio who has little actual farming experience.

The new minister, however, established himself as a valuable committee man during his two short years in the House of Commons. Last year he entered the struggle for the Ontario Liberal leadership against Andrew Thompson and Charles Templeton, and may be congratulating himself now on having failed to get the job. At any rate, he became an overnight front-runner for the agricultural post when former minister Harry Hays was wiped out on the prairies. He holds the distinction of being the first easterner to obtain this portfolio in 54 years.

In a press interview following the announcement of his appointment, Mr. Greene noted the sharp divergence which has taken place in eastern and western farm economies since 1911. "Today," he said, "eastern farming is largely mixed, dairy and to some degree, beef. But the problems of the west are the very large problems of the grain trade." Although recent governments have done a good job on grain, he didn't think eastern problems have ever been effectively legislated in the federal area. There are major decisions to be made in this regard. "If the problems of the eastern farmer can best be met by better marketing, then it's up to us to get together with the provinces and get better marketing," he added. The government must decide, too, whether the family farm is to be the basis of our agricultural economy, perhaps with "greater security," or whether corporate production was the farming of the future.

We have no doubt that Mr. Greene will make it his business to familiarize himself with our Atlantic area as soon as possible. He will find that our farmers here are very much concerned with the problems he has outlined, and are as anxious as he is that he meet with success in grappling with them on the federal level.

EDITORIAL NOTE

When astronauts Borman and Lovell were preparing to complete their space mission in Gemini 7 last Friday, they were reminded that it was that date 62 years ago that Orville Wright made the first powered flight—120 feet in 12 seconds, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, and his brother Wilbur Wright flew 826 feet in 59 seconds. It seemed, then, just as marvellous a performance as the projected moon flight does now.



'SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO RUN YOURSELF'

JUPITER'S ANTICS

Slowdown Puzzles World Astronomers

Jupiter is puzzling astronomers again. The mysterious giant planet apparently has started to spin more slowly, and no one knows why. Jupiter normally takes nine hours and 56 minutes to rotate on its axis, but recent calculations indicate that one full revolution is taking 1.3 seconds longer. By astronomical standards, this is a drastic change. The slowdown is linked with two other Jovian puzzles—the planet's long-wave radio signals and its Great Red Spot.

EMITS RADIO SIGNALS In 1955, astronomers learned that Jupiter was emitting long-wave radio signals. It was a surprising discovery, because planets usually transmit only short waves generated by heat. The course of Jupiter's long waves remains unknown, though several theories have been offered.

RED SPOT SLOWS, TOO Dr. Smith also recorded a nearly identical decline in the rotational speed of Jupiter's Great Red Spot. This may indicate the spot is a fixed entity on the planet's face. Astronomers generally have believed that the oval-shaped spot is not connected to the surface, but able to drift like a huge raft in the sea. They have further speculated that the spot is a solid body suspended like a satellite in Jupiter's dense atmosphere. It could be metallic hydrogen or solid helium.

The reddish oval object in the southern half of the planet was first observed three centuries ago—in 1664 by the British scientist Robert Hooke. When first seen, the spot was brick red. Since then, its color has varied from salmon pink to a greenish white. The marking disappeared from view in 1713 and did not reappear until 1831.

The circumference of the Great Red Spot is greater than that of the earth. This immensity is in keeping with the colossal dimensions of Jupiter, which is not merely the largest of the planets in the solar system but bigger in mass and volume than all the other planets put together.

Jupiter's vast sphere could contain 1,300 earths, but it is only 300 times heavier. The planet's relatively light weight—another Jovian mystery—suggests that a large part of it consists of gas in forms unknown on earth.

History On Wheels

History, to most people, is dull stuff. Students tend to view it as a long procession of remote events and elusive dates that must somehow be successfully pored for exam papers—and which may be mercifully forgotten as soon as expedient. Canadian history, being totally innocent of such melodramatics as marching legions or royal beheadings, seems especially drab. But suppose would-be students, whatever their age, could in some miraculous way be transported back, could walk through the land as it once was, could touch and feel the whisper-light birch bark canoes, the snow-strung snow shoes, and the great thundering arquebuses that once helped to conquer the land.

Suppose they could hear again the rush, through silence, of the great Canadian rivers, feel the blast of prairie heat on their faces, or watch a proud and regal Indian chief instructing his tribe: suppose they could handle Louis Riel's revolver. Wouldn't Canadian history take on more meaning, seem more relevant, more real? Planners of the centennial commission in Ottawa are betting \$8 million that it will. Accordingly they have designed the centennial exhibit train (cost over \$4 million for six cars) and the eight Confederation caravans which will take the Canadian story—complete with sound, weather, and piped-in scents—to all parts of the country. The centennial train and the caravans (which in essence duplicate the train) are to be a hitherto unparalleled production of Canadians.

The display—made up of photographs, engravings and paintings, with dioramic displays and people-viewers—with realistic walk-through sets, and with thousands of artifacts—begin with Canada as it was before the white man came and carry its story through to the present. The battlefields of the Second World War, the Roaring Twenties, the drama of Banting and Best, and the discovery of insulin, the ticker-tape tragedy of 1929—all are represented. The object of this extravaganza is to make Canadians more aware of their heritage, and a little prouder of their nation. If the centennial train and the Confederation caravans live up to the centennial commission's hopes they should do both.

QUACKS COLLECT CASH About 25,000 unqualified, self-proclaimed "psychological experts" collect \$375,000,000 a year in the United States.

Predicting Growth

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen How tall will you get? This question is of more concern to children who are tall or short for their age. X-ray studies of the bones of the wrist and hand probably offer the most accurate predictions because the changes in the growing ends (epiphyses) of the bones mirror the maturation level at all times. When these bone centres fuse, no more linear growth occurs. This usually takes place at the end of adolescence, which is age 19 in the boy and slightly earlier in the girl.

The skeletal age of a person does not always follow the chronological age. It is determined by studying the ends of the bone and referring to a special table. The girl who is tallest at age 12 may be the most advanced skeletally, whereas the shortest is the least advanced. If the former begins to mature she may go through an early growth spurt with an early cessation of growth. The shorter girl may continue at a slower pace and mature later in her teens. If she spends a longer time growing, she may end up the taller of the two.

Hereditarily plays a major role in the developing skeleton, but in reality the skeletal age also is altered by illness, the endocrine glands, and nutrition. The role of exercise is difficult to assess. Specialists in this field are able to predict the adult height of a child with a fair degree of accuracy. The error will be 1 inch or less when the X-rays are made before 12 to 14 years of age and less than 1/4 inch after this time. Other body dimensions are not necessarily related to skeletal age. The X-rays often disclose if the child is ahead or behind schedule so far as sexual maturity is concerned. Predicting growth has many emotional implications. The tall, athletic girl may value femininity and consider herself inferior until told that she is a fast grower. The reverse may occur to the small immature boy. His day will come, but he must wait for it.

TWITCHING EXTREMITIES I. McC. writes: Please advise me regarding the treatment of Parkinson's disease. I have twitching of the arms and legs but no head. Why are doctors reluctant to treat this condition? REPLY Physicians are not reluctant to treat Parkinson's disease, but they may balk when they do not believe that the twitching is caused by this disorder. There are many drugs and an operation that lessen the muscle rigidity and typical tremor.

TSSU DEGENERATION E. J. writes: I have a ganglion on the back of my wrist. My job requires the lifting of heavy trays. Is there any connection between my job and the lesion on my wrist? REPLY This is doubtful. A ganglion is a cyst that develops on the wrist as a result of tissue degeneration. Hard work may aggravate the swelling.

TWITCHING MUSCLES J. M. writes: What might cause twitching of the calves of the legs? I am 65 and walk 10 miles per week. REPLY Irritable muscles often twitch. This may be due to poor circulation, arthritis, arch trouble, or too much coffee, tea, and tobacco. Many persons at your age walk 10 or more miles every day.

CHEST HERNIA K. B. P. writes: Could a person have a hernia in the chest? REPLY Yes. The most common type is protrusion through an opening in the diaphragm and is known as a hiatus or diaphragmatic hernia. Today's Health Hint—Start the holiday house-cleaning early. (Note: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen, Chicago, Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

West German Prospects

WASHINGTON (CP)—The visit here by Chancellor Ludwig Erhard of West Germany is regarded more as a friendly ritual than a meeting for hard decisions. West Germany's wagon remains firmly hitched to the United States star and that in itself is something of a handicap to Erhard's bargaining position, some observers suggest. When the idea of a multi-national nuclear force for NATO first was proposed, as a means to give Germany a greater nuclear voice, West Germany enthusiastically endorsed it despite some obvious misgivings. Now, with that concept seemingly killed by European opposition, West Germany has turned to the British suggestion of last year for the so-called Atlantic nuclear force, which would have included Britain's four nuclear submarines from the U.S.

However, Britain herself has been backing away from that formula, which some diplomatic sources say bluntly was just a gimmick by Prime Minister Wilson to get time to size up the Atlantic Alliance atmosphere and his own position. Wilson on his visit here last Friday is believed to have reached an agreement with President Johnson on letting the German nuclear question simmer a bit longer, turned over to the special NATO committee proposed by the U.S. in Paris last month.

A major element in German interest in the NATO nuclear sphere is fear that Germany will become a pawn in any East-West horse-trading leading to arrangements to halt or curb nuclear spread among nations. This is a big reason why Britain seems to have been urging a go-slow attitude in NATO. The U.S. and Britain deny there is any conflict between Germany and a nuclear détente—as Soviet Russia claims. The whole question from Germany's standpoint also is a threat to the dream of reunification with the East. Within the U.S. government itself there are differences on the priorities of giving Germany more nuclear say or concentrating on an anti-proliferation pact despite the chill which Viet Nam has cast all around. Hence President Johnson does not appear in a position to give Erhard hard answers on the latest U.S. nuclear line. Erhard as an accommodating guest is not expected to press the matter. He raised his stock even higher on arriving for his two-day visit by announcing new economic aid for Viet Nam and renewed support for the American position in Viet Nam. This is more than the U.S. was able to harvest last week at NATO in Paris when it sought more non-military help and more moral support.

Ends Old Grudge

London Free Press In a world where differences seem more dramatic than agreements, special attention should go to the free trade pact negotiated between Britain and the Republic of Ireland. This should go a long way to ending one of the bitterest and most long-seated of the "ancient grudges" which have poisoned relations between peoples. It is also a triumph of economics over political prejudices. Whether it will mean a final solution of the "Irish Question," as Prime Minister Wilson hopes, remains to be seen. While Ireland should benefit by the opening up of the big British market some Irish interests may suffer, notably the secondary industries which have been carefully nursed along during recent years. Terms of the agreement have not yet been made public. They will be eagerly awaited, not only by people of the two countries immediately involved, but also by others who have supplied the British food market, notably the New Zealanders and Danes. Canadians will be more marginally affected. It is an old grievance of the Irish that their economy was ruthlessly subordinated to that of Britain during the long period of British rule. They never gained as much as the Scots after the Industrial Revolution from the existence of the United Kingdom. Canada will be particularly interested in how the new agreement works out, for our economic relationship to the United States is in some ways parallel to that between the Republic of Ireland and Britain, though our secondary manufacturers are a much more important part of our economy.

Regressive Taxation

Winnipeg Tribune Tax laws all over the world show a non-sensical approach to the intimacies of family life. Those who die up tax legislation regard marriage as an untidy custom that makes tax deduction more complicated than need be. It doesn't bother them in the least, for example, that any wife in this country who earns more than \$1,250 a year is automatically treated as a single person. They bear with fortitude the thought that their rulings knock common-law cohabitation statistics into a cocked hat. This detached attitude on the part of tax legislators is not peculiar to Canada. Recently a group of members in the Malaysian parliament suggested to the finance minister that citizens should be given tax exemption for second and succeeding wives. The finance minister, a man with the interesting name of Tan Sin, rejected the proposal. He said, "A second wife is not only a distinct luxury, it is a great pleasure, and if you can afford it, you might as well pay for it." Finance ministers are just the same world over. They just won't recognize the facts of life.

Suppressed Competition

Montreal Gazette It becomes increasingly difficult to see how the federal government can fail to reconsider its position regarding the recommendations of the Porter Commission on Banking and Finance. It is a surprising thing when a Government turns aside the chief recommendation of the Royal Commission—the one recommendation the commissioners urged to be adopted, whatever might be done about anything else in their report. And now one bank president after the other has been urging the Government to look again at what it did, and to adopt what the Porter Commission recommended. This is seen, as another example, in the update yesterday of Mr. J. Ubald Boyer, at the annual meeting of the Provincial Bank of Canada. Mr. Boyer believes that by placing a limit of six per cent on what the banks may charge for loans, the financial system of Canada is, in effect, cut into two sections, with neither section able to compete against the other. The banks are limited in their lending to loans that require a comparatively low rate of interest while other lending institutions may charge what the market will bear. It was the main contention of the Porter Commission that any system that raises a wall to prevent competition cannot be in the best interests of the public. For it means that those who are not able to get loans at the banks' rate of interest—and these include many small businessmen—have to go to other lenders and pay what they charge. And since competition between the banks and other lenders for loans of this kind has been prevented, these borrowers are paying far more for their loans than they would in a competitive market.

Allies Sweet And Sour

Christian Science Monitor

Almost the whole range of America's foreign alliances—from sweet to sour—were in Washington last week. The visits there of Pakistan's President Mohammed Ayub Khan, British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard testify to the unique breadth of the American alliance system and to the unparalleled problem which Washington faces in keeping its alliance bright, healthy and happy. In Pakistan the United States has an ally which has almost stopped being such. In Germany although there are still far more factors working for American harmony than against it, a few frayed spots are beginning to show up in the post-war relationship of these two lands. In Britain there is America's staunchest, steadiest and strongest ally if one excepts good neighbour Canada. Between this spectrum from Pakistan to Britain lie innumerable variations of light and shade, each of which Washington must seek to understand, and when possible adapt to. It is no loose use of the word to term this system of alliances unique in the modern world. It reaches into every continent, includes some of the most populous as well as some of the tiniest nations on the globe, encompasses lands which are democratic to the core and others which hardly know the meaning of the word. If anything ever lent truth to that "everything is in a state of

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