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Published every week day morning except Sunday
...
\$12.00 a year off Island and U.K. \$20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.
No. 7, 5 single copy.

"The strongest authority is weaker than the weakest link"

PAGE 1 SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1964

BNA Act Revision

There is to be delay, it seems, in proceeding with the revised legislation planning a national contributory pension plan at Ottawa. The Government intends to postpone action until a constitutional amendment can be secured that will pave the way for inclusion of benefits for surviving dependents and the disabled.

It is hoped to secure the necessary change in the British North America Act—which must first be approved by the British Parliament—in time to proceed with consideration of the revised scheme some time during the present session. That could mean a delay of several months.

Now, probably, we'll hear further tirades from some quarters about our subservience to Britain—about our colonial status under the BNA Act, and that kind of thing. The fact is, of course, that from the time it was framed the Act was never tampered with by Britain except when requested to do so by Canada; and Canadian requests for amendment have always been granted.

In 1949, the Dominion Parliament was given the power to change the parts of the Act that concern only the Dominion government, and the provinces have always been able to change their own constitutions, except in matters connected with the lieutenant-governor. Other parts of the Act have been changed with some or all of the provincial governments agreeing; but as Canadians we have shunned the responsibility of assuming power to change the parts of the constitution that underlie the two sets of government. We just can't agree among ourselves on how far this power should be used, or which government in Canada should have it.

That is what is involved here. Quebec has joined other provinces in agreeing to a constitutional amendment that would make possible the inclusion of survivor and disabled benefits in the pension plan; but Premier Lesage would probably be the first to insist that the bill for this provision should remain ultra vires at Ottawa until the due procedure is taken at Westminster. This is one of the safeguards his province enjoys under our constitution, which applies also to the protection of minority rights in education and the use of the French language.

To Spur United Nations

At the United Nations Assembly last fall, Prime Minister Pearson proposed that member nations earmark and train units for an international force which would be established outside the U.N. framework but designed for U.N. duty when called on by that world body. His plea met with disappointing response. But Mr. Pearson has seized another opportunity of making his point, this time in a lecture delivered this week in the Dag Hammarskjöld memorial series sponsored by Columbia University, the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and the U.S. committee of this foundation.

He coupled with it an announcement that Canada is planning to hold confidential, exploratory talks with certain other governments on the formation of his proposed international force. The other countries concerned, he indicated, are Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and The Netherlands.

This is a worthwhile objective indeed. Regardless of the political obstacles in the way, it presents a challenge which the United Nations cannot afford much longer to sidestep. Mr. Pearson, a Nobel Peace Prize winner for his efforts in promoting establishment of the first U.N. peace corps in the Middle East during the Suez crisis, is perhaps in the best position of any government leader to sponsor a move of this kind.

The Canadian Prime Minister called attention, in his address, to the Cyprus conflict. He did not need to remind his hearers of the part which Canada is playing in the U.N. peace-keeping operation there. But he could have added that this effort requires more support from other U.N. members than it is receiving. It is the Commonwealth soldiers from Britain and Canada, with small token forces from Sweden, Finland and Ireland, that are doing the job, which doesn't say much for the lip-service being paid to the principle of collective U.N. responsibility.

What is needed, as Mr. Pearson pointed out, is an international staff to co-ordinate the training and other activities of the contingents in peace-keeping operations, and prepare plans and operating procedures for a variety of situations.

"The Canadian government is determined to push ahead toward this goal," he declared. It is to be hoped that, in the Canadian Parliament at least, there will be no partisan opposition to his policy. A resolution unanimously endorsing it would be a fitting gesture at this time.

Presidential Foibles

Not long ago President Johnson got into hot water by taking some reporters for a ride at his Texas ranch and allegedly driving well over the speed limit while sipping beer. Then his hospitable instincts led him to escort a large group of unidentified tourists to a hot White House grounds, and he has been censured for risking his life by mingling with them indiscriminately in this manner, and endangering the country. Now he's in trouble again, for saying that it's good for beagles to be lifted by their ears—it makes them howl, and a man who likes hound dogs likes the sound.

It's hard, comments the Milwaukee Journal, to believe it could be good for any animal to be lifted by its ears, but there are stranger beliefs about pets than that. At any rate the President is smarting under the charge of "not being humane." For Mr. Johnson, it seems, is a proud man as well as an ambitious one. He wants to be liked.

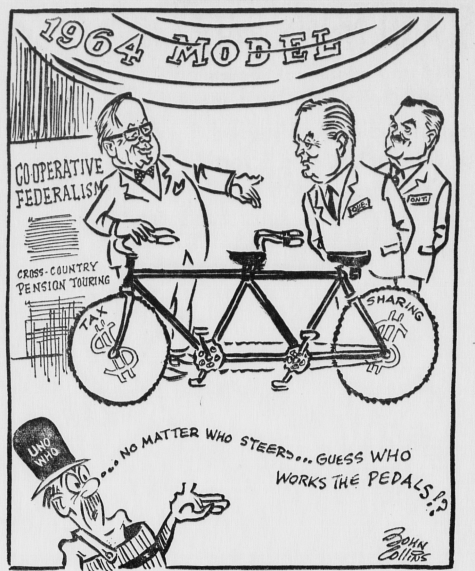
He hates to be criticised. In big matters he has managed to win much praise over the country, but to a thin skinned man the little things blow up into major problems. It's his foibles that have got him worried more than Castro or Mr. Khrushchev.

The Milwaukee paper advises him, for his own good, to be more careful in public from now on. But it would be equally good advice to suggest that he be less solicitous about trying to be all things to all men. Other presidents have been panned for their foibles, but it didn't get them down.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Officials of the New York World's Fair expect that, by the time it finishes its two-year stand, 70 million paying customers will have been entertained. That's a lot of business for even America's biggest city to handle.

Here's what the Daily Packet and Times of Orillia, Ont., has to say about the proposed three-wing maple leaf design for a new Canadian flag, as suggested recently by the Pearson government: "It is a remarkably faithful reflection of the sort of negative thinking that produced it: aemic, uninspired and uninspiring, designed to avoid giving offence to anyone rather than to stir up dangerous feelings of pride and patriotism. It is a mousey, self-abasing, apologetic Milquetoast of a flag intended to curry favor among both the French and English-speaking sections of the country by its absence of any acyclical symbolism whatever."



THERE'S ALWAYS DOLLAR DES ORMEAUX

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Trans-Polar Flights, Maple Products, Etc.

An airline stewardess will be qualified to provide for the comfort of passengers under all possible conditions. So travellers flying over the North Pole can comfort themselves with the assurance that the steward who mixes and ices their martini cocktails will fly because a height of 7 miles could easily numb their feet if their airline should be forced to land on the polar wastes.

Stewards on the polar route can shoot a spear, tie up for dinner, and also have an igloo in which the passengers can rest. This, fascinating but hope recalcitrant, is the information comes from the International Air Transport Association's headquarters in Montreal. Trans-polar flights are now regularly scheduled because of the long range of modern airliners permits them to fly non-stop. The shorter route between the west coast of North America and the east coast of Europe, which periodically crosses the North Pole.

MAPLE YIELD FALLS
The production of maple syrup and maple sugar last year dropped from the 1962 total according to information of those valued gems of mother who point out in an newspaper articles from hopeful public reader to staff who might not be an insignificant statistic this year by being dismissed by this year's Prime Minister.

POSTAL SERVICE
The Canadian General Jack Nicholson has declared his intention to make our Postal Service part of the wodge. It was pointed out to him in Parliament that it would be stopped subsidizing "Time" magazine by distributing its weekly editions at a loss. Another way might be to improve his service, and thus attract business back from the telephone, from the pony express, from the message-in-a-bottle and other speedier means of communication. I have just received a letter which was fully and correctly addressed and properly prepaid by a correspondent in Mount Vernon.

PUBLIC FORUM

CITY TAXES
Sir,—At a meeting held at the Clover Club in Charlottetown on April 29, 1964, a city councillor mentioned that the Government of P.E.I. was contributing 20 cent per capita of city's population towards the costs of the city.

Most citizens agree that some tax increases are necessary for civic developments. But isn't it time to re-examine the unnecessary expenditures to return to a state of civic sanity?

OVERBURDENED TAXPAYER
I am, Sir, etc.
MOTHER'S DAY
Sir,—It's Mother's Day again and with this lovely month we may look ahead to the many joys of the wodge. We look across the fields and meadows and see the birds mating and their love for one another, and then we think of the great love of all that mother love, that eternal flame that burns in the hearts of mothers no matter where they are. Without it all nature would wither and die. Looking back through more than 2000 years, we see our own mother as she travelled into the sunset of her life. I can still feel her embrace when I recall her warnings of the temptations along the highway of life. I remember the storm of the wind at night and will still feel her gentle shadow over that old home we loved so well. I can see her again at her window, waiting for me to see her again in the twilight years, but I still hear her voice in the murmur of the wind at night and will still feel her gentle shadow over that old home we loved so well. I can see her again at her window, waiting for me to see her again in the twilight years, but I still hear her voice in the murmur of the wind at night and will still feel her gentle shadow over that old home we loved so well.

Surely our leading citizens in this community have a moral responsibility to ameliorate the situation of this nature. This will be a most serious social matter which should be of great concern to our citizens generally. Surely some adjustment in lowering the tax rate or in reducing all assessments to a more realistic figure, so that industrial city can be effected by our civic government. There is the great danger that

Lick Strep Infections

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
Viruses have made the headlines so often, bacteria such as streptococci have been neglected. These micro-organisms were the scourge of a generation and antibiotics destroyed their importance. They remain with us, and certain types (beta hemolytic) trigger rheumatic fever and Bright's disease (acute glomerular nephritis).

The strep bug is a problem today—but it need not be, because we now know how to handle it. The method is simple: A throat swab and culture can be made on every child with a sore throat or tonsillitis. When the beta hemolytic strep is found to be the culprit, an antibiotic is administered in adequate dosage in sufficient length of time to eliminate these bacteria from the system.

If this were done religiously, there would be a considerable lowering of the incidence of rheumatic fever and kidney infection. These diseases practically never occur when treatment of sore throat is started within 48 hours. In addition, there would be less rheumatoid arthritis and sinus infections. The number of strep infections in the neighborhood would be reduced, and the patient becomes noninfectious within 36 hours after therapy.

How does a physician know whether a strep throat exists? He cannot tell merely by looking, as different micro-organisms are capable of causing redness and swelling of throat and tonsils, along with fever and pain on swallowing. It is only way to find out is to remove some of the secretions with a sterile cotton swab and send to the laboratory.

A quick and less expensive method is available to make the determination. This removes the objection of high cost and some cities. Children for one, the health department will take samples under the plan made as a preventive for rheumatic fever.

SAVING VANS
Sailing fans will learn with interest that the Western Hemisphere Snipe Sailing Championship will take place in the fall of 1964. The organizers of the Oakville Yacht Squadron, Ontario, are August 21-28. Competitors from at least nine other countries, in addition to Canadian entries, are expected. The Snipe is the darling of the world's most active sailors—a 15' 6" long, carrying 10 square feet of sail, the maroon rigged sloop is raced by a crew of two.

COMPETITORS will be provided with identical new fibreglass racing shells, free of charge, for the races which will be sailed on Lake Ontario. A gold M.P. always does all can be to boost his home town. It was with especial pride that Dr. Harry Harley told me of this unique distinction coming to Oakville in August. May Lake Ontario provide good sailing.

CAUSE TIDAL WAVES

Massive earthquakes or volcanic shocks cause tidal waves that can travel more than 500 miles an hour and rise to 90 feet or more landward.

Stormy Cuban Trade Issue

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer
Britain is anxious to dispel any notion that discussions between President Johnson and British Foreign Secretary R. A. Butler over the Cuban trade issue were in any way stormy or accompanied by threats.

Butler met with Johnson at the White House April 29 where, a British source says, the president again urged the United States to support the U.S. port and other equipment to the Castro regime.

The informant said the president spoke at some length on the issue, generally in the vein of his remarks at Wednesday's press conference. He expressed regret that some allies have not co-operated with the U.S. in the way of the U.S. will "constantly insist" that the allies pursue a policy of economic isolation towards Cuba.

NO TABLE-TUMBLING
The private talks between Butler and Johnson led to a number of published reports the president stormed at Butler, but his remarks were accompanied by table-tumbling and other gestures. The British informant said this was not the case.

Mr. Johnson was emphatic in his argument the allies must stand together if the U.S. is to win the struggle against communism in the Western Hemisphere. He said the president also indicated the lack of co-operation within the alliance was embarrassing the administration in view of rising

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
May 9, 1939
The Summerside Y's Men held their regular supper meeting in the Presbyterian Church. The meeting was presided over by a lobster supper by the young ladies of the Church. Mr. R.L. Molison presided.

Mr. Thomas N. White, youngest son of Mrs. White, Summerside and the late Ven. Archbishop C. deWolfe White passed with honors at Dalhousie University, Halifax in his second year of examinations. Mr. White received three distinctions in Dental Surgery as well as a second prize in the Charles Bell Memorial Fund.

TEN YEARS AGO

May 9, 1954
The annual meeting of the Professional Women's Club recently held a community evening. The meeting was presided over by Miss Dora Slett of New Zealand. Miss Maude Brock, the president, was in the chair. There were representative speakers from Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

WIRELESS ACTIVITY

M. E. writes: Does a diuretic cause excessive sweating?
REPLY
No—excessive urination is not due to eliminate sodium, which accumulates in the body and leads to waterlogged tissues (edema). Today's Health Hint—
Weigh less the healthy way.

Madeleine Sherwood's "Freedom Walk"

Montreal-born actress Sherwood now living in New York's Greenwich Village, recently made a trip south to participate in non-violent protests after deciding to "do something" about racial injustice in the U.S. In this week's issue of Weekend Magazine, Miss Sherwood describes how she became involved in a "freedom walk" in Alabama where she was arrested and sentenced to six months' hard labor.

The Evening Patriot
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