The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

Desperate Situation

In Saskatchewan we have an example of what happens when an irresistible force meets an immoveable body. The controversial medical care insurance scheme, slated for July 1, has gone into effect, with the doctors still opposed and virtually on strike.

The people of the province face an unprecedented situation. And if there is not compromise on either or both sides they may face worse than that. It is not at all impossible for an epidemic to break out while the contending parties are wrangling over this issue, and what then? Surely common sense, and recognition of the need for putting public interests first, will force a truce to this bitter struggle before it results in disastrous consequences.

Who then would be the gainers —the government or the doctors? If the deadlock continues, both sides will have lost any claim to be acting on humane motives. However logically they may argue their case, it will make little appeal to sufferers who must go unattended by medical aid, whose lives may be imperilled or even lost through lack of adequate attention during this crisis.

The doctors, it is true, have arranged for an emergency service, free of charge, at hospitals strategically located in the province. But who knows what emergencies may arise, even after this last holiday weekend not to speak of the days and weeks ahead? Canadians everywhere will hope that this impasse will speedily be resolved, on any basis that will safeguard the lives of the people concerned.

World's Greatest Forgery

In Block 19 of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp just north of Berlin, a group of 40 or 50 inmates formed a double line every so often and performed one of the strangest assignments of World War II. They passed newly printed British bank notes— of £5 £10, £20 and £50 denominations—up and down the lines, creasing them, rubbing them between their palms, dog-earing some of the bills and piercing others with a pointed wire.

The purpose was to give the notes the look of wrinkled, respectable age—the final process in the greatest counterfeiting operation of all time. Up to 400,000 separate British bank notes were turned out each month at the Sachsenhausen camp, of such superb quality that Swiss banks and even the Bank of England passed them as the real thing.

More than £700,000,000 in bogus British currency was produced by the Nazis throughout the war. Some still is in circulation around the world, although the British, since the war, have changed the size and color of their bank notes.

An English journalist, Anthony Pirie, tells the story of this fantastic scheme in "Operation Bernhard", published by Morrow and reviewed at length by Gerald Kloss in a recent issue of the Milwaukee Journal. It makes fascinating reading. The book title was the code name for the counterfeiting project, taken from the first name of Bernhard Krueger, head of the forgery workshop of the Nazi security service and the man put in charge of the bank note production at Sachsenhausen.

Most of this phoney currency was spent in occupied Europe. There is no way of knowing how much of it got to Britain itself. As the tide of war turned toward Allied victory, the Germans involved in "Operation Bernhard" looked to their personal fortunes—in the last months of the war, Sachsenhausen printed $100 American bills in lieu of British bank notes, but Pirie's book does not estimate how many were turned out.

The production plant was moved to Austria a few months before V-E day, and in the last days before the German surrender, the engraving plates, type and large boxes, packed with counterfeit currency, were sunk to the bottom of the Toplitzsee, a deserted lake in Austria, later to be recovered by divers in 1959. The concentration camp counterfeiters were given their freedom before the arrival of American troops—final payment for the most audacious forgery ever attempted.

British Farm Devices

British farmers are flexing themselves, for the challenge of Britain's proposed entry into the European Common Market. Evidence of this was given at the four-day Royal Counties agricultural show held at Petworth, England, June 20-23, in the form of various technological advances which attracted the lively interest of Prince Minister Harold Macmillan, who was president of the show.

Every device and development in organization which raises efficiency and brings down costs is of additional importance today with the Common Market entry looming. The Prime Minister was particularly interested in a speeded-up method of handling and milking cows. He saw a model dairy unit in which one man can handle a herd of 60 cows and get them milked in an hour.

He also saw a device that is being used on a farm in Nottinghamshire and that was the subject of special notice in the press reports. This was a large flat trailer on wheels hitched behind a tractor. But the key feature was an air mattress on which five farm hands can lie face downward so they can thin out sugar-beet seedlings without backache or knee wear. The tractor moves at a speed of three-quarters of a mile an hour, and the time taken for the job of thinning a large field of beets is reduced by 37 per cent.

Government leaders are concerned about the "featherbedding" problem in industry, but this application of the system must have impressed Mr. Macmillan as being both simple and efficient. In political terms, of course, the word relates to undue cushioning of an industry by government price supports at the expense of the taxpayers. It has become a term of abuse that is resented by British farm folk. But there was no derogatory significance to the featherbedding of the air mattress at the Petworth show. The farmer who originated it gained for himself the reputation of a smart operator by airbedding his beet workers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In referring on Saturday to the extension of the lobster fishing seasons in the Maritimes we stated, incorrectly, that in the district which includes most of Prince Edward Island the season was being extended by six days. This should have read "three days", as indicated in our news columns of Thursday.

Warnings are being sounded that Newfoundland forests are tinder dry and the menace of forest fires like those so disastrous to that province last year is ever present. Every province, indeed, faces fire hazards in its woods at this season, and none can hope to escape losses without safety precautions on the part of all concerned.

* * *

Bank of Canada Governor Louis Rasminksy has quite properly declined to comment on the report that he visited Liberal Leader Lester Pearson on behalf of Prime Minister Diefenbaker to brief him on the upcoming austerity program presented by the Prime Minister last week. We trust, however, that the report is correct. Mr. Pearson will again be leader of the Opposition in the next Parliament, and there is every reason why he should be briefed officially on a subject of such grave national concern.

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Language Simplification Drive Launched

England is launching a drive to simplify its language, preparatory to promoting it as a universal language facilitating the ultimate creation of "one world".

This simplification, according to one report, will entail adding 17 new letters to the alphabet, so that each distinctive sound would be clearly represented by a distinctive letter or combination of letters. At present many letters and groups of letters, especially vowels, are pronounced in different ways in different words. For example, the foreigner is terribly confused by the different pronunciation of the words plough, cough, though, ought and enough.

English is increasingly being accepted as the common tongue among the emerging nations of Africa and Asia. So urgent is fluency in English that, for obvious and menacing reasons, Russian schools teach it, three times as intensively as Ontario schools teach the language of choice.

SON OF MOTHER TONGUE

But English, largely owing to its confusing pronunciation, is becoming as non-uniform in various countries as French is. In France and Quebec, So Britain's Minister of Education, Sir David Eccles, has urged that England and U.S.A. — but surprisingly not British, North America (Canada) — co-operate in standardising their language and promoting it around the world.

He pointed out that the divergencies are increasing, and explored this trend in words. Relationship with Oxford English, New York English, Russian English, Chinese English, and so on, much as the language of the old Roman Empire became diversified into Italian, Spanish and French.

Eccles pointed out as an example that the phrase "I'm mad about my flat" has entirely different meanings in English and U.S.A. In London, that means "I'm enthusiastic about my apartment."

To illustrate pronunciation difficulties, he might have told about the foreigner learning the language in London, England, who finally gave up when passing the shelves where the latest play by the well-known Noel Coward was enjoying a triumph he read the blurb "Cavalcade—pronounced success."

TRANSLATOR NEEDED?

Pronunciation is also the heart of the tale about the Yankee tourist who, signing the visitor's register in an English country hotel, remarked that some other guests had cumbersome names, such as "Marjoribanks" and "Cholmondeley". "Oh," said the clerk. "Those are pronounced 'Marshbanks' and 'Chumley'."

Whereupon the Yank inscribed his own name, Joe Phyholomnyth.

"And how do you pronounce that?" asked the bewildered clerk.

Just Turner replied the Yank explaining "PHTH as in phthisis, OLO as in Colonel, MN as in mnemonics, and Ynth as in myrrh."

Meanwhile Eccles' proposal for standard meanings has touched off a transatlantic contest in meanings, which makes Quebec's "joual" appeal like a pure language in contrast. Typical are he words for parts of an automobile (car), such as hood (bonnet), hood (roof) and trunk (boot). The USA's love of long words is commented upon, in place of the shorter words, such as apartment, elevator, bonnet, hood and expressway. So are the "nice Nellyisms" of USA, such as hostess for waitress, casket for coffin, and comfort station for lavatory.

If Canada gets into this act, the CBC will be slapped for its misuses, such as "on hand" for "at hand", and "momentarily" for "soon". But our grandchildren would certainly benefit by the standardisation and simplification being urged by Education Minister Eccles.

Britain Restricts Entry

By Doug Marshall
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Britain hoists her immigration drawbridge Sunday and ends the era of uncontrolled entry from the Commonwealth.

The flood of colored Commonwealth immigrants that began after the July 1 deadline was announced last April reached a peak during the last three days.

More than 1,000 persons are scheduled to arrive Saturday on special flights from the Far East, Africa, the Mediterranean and the West Indies.

Hundreds of others, particularly from Pakistan, have been arriving on scheduled air flights and channel boats. A group of Cypriots is reported dashing across France by train after ship was delayed in the Mediterranean.

RESTRICT ENTRY

After Sunday only those who hold work vouchers, have skills or are students will be able to pass freely into the mother country.

The number of immigrants has doubled to 14,500 a month since 1960. Some 450,000 British subjects have settled in Britain from the Commonwealth in the last seven years.

Most of these immigrants are poor and unskilled, and they will be the first to find themselves out of work if a slump comes.

As the same time Britain is hard-pressed to find accommodation for its own population let alone the newcomers. Housing shortages, acute since the war, have been aggravated in most urban areas.

The flow into Britain began in earnest 10 years ago when the United States closed its door on West Indians. Since then the number of West Indians seeking to improve their standard of living by moving to the United Kingdom has jumped to 5,000 a month from 200 a year.

COLOR BAR DENIED

The government denies that the new act is in any way a color bar but argues that Britain simply cannot absorb any more people and maintain social and economic stability.

Most Britons will watch the drawbridge go up with regret. It is part of the closing stages of a 300-year experiment with empire.

London would like to be the new Rome, welcoming all her far-flung sons as free and equal citizens. But the world has grown larger and the gap between the developed and underdeveloped nations wider.

Britain has been forced, reluctantly, to examine her immigrants more closely and ensure they can look after themselves.

Among The Guidebooks

Patricia K. Brooks in the Saturday Review

Anyone who enters a book store looking for a guidebook to help him find his way abroad will soon need help finding his way among the guidebooks.

There are guidebooks for the biggest country, guidebooks for the tiniest town, guidebooks whitten for men, for women, for children, and for elves. There are guidebooks that do everything but help you decide which guidebook to buy.

Some guidebooks purport to tell you where you can buy haute couture dresses at haute couture prices. Others will tell you in on the gastronomical treats of the Bloire valley. (But how many of us ever get as far as the Bloire valley anyhow? And would you really detour the 750 miles it takes to get there just for hummingbird tongues au truffe, and specialite de vallee? If you? would, chances are you would find the birds out of season.) Still others promise to show your how to "do" Europe on 20 cents a day. (The trick seems to be to skip lunch.)

Guidebooks are written, by and large, for three distinct reasons:

To repay the hotels and air lines who have asked the writer to his vacation.

To demonstrate the writer's erudition and scholarship.

To prove what a clever chap the writer is in ferreting out both all the little known and well known places, and doing it on $30 or on 30 cents a day.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(July 3, 1937)

Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, were believed forced down at sea near Howland Island today, when their fuel gave out on a flight of 2570 miles from Lae, New Guinea. Miss Earhart, who was attempting an equatorial flight around the world from Oakland, Calif., and her navigator left New Guinea at 9 p.m. last night.

One hundred Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island officers and men went through a gruelling drill and instruction at Aldershot camp yesterday, the hottest day of the year. The Canadian Infantry Association trophy, for best efficiency in 1936 in Military District Number Six, will be presented to the Prince Edward Island Highlanders, under Col. C. C. Thompson.

TEN YEARS AGO
(July 3, 1952)

Special parking space for tourists is another of the new arrangements made this week by the Travel Bureau in Charlottetown. The two marked parking areas, directly in front of the Great George Street office, is reserved exclusively for visitors wishing to make enquiries. In addition the Bureau has obtained the privilege of using the play area of Queen Square School for tourist parking.

The second pre-Charter supper meeting of the Charlottetown Lions Club took place Wednesday evening at the Queen Hotel. Mr. Salter Innis from Lions' International was in attendance. Entertainment in a most popular vein was provided by members Cliff Campbell, Lou Bagnall, and others.

NOTED CHURCH

The 14th-century Gothic cathedral at Gerona in northern pain has a single nave, 73 feet wide.

RHYME COMES TRUE

LONDON (CP) — London Bridge really is falling down. Cracks have appeared in the stonework and the centre arch of the five arches over the Thames is tilting slightly. Engineers say there is no cause for alarm but are inspecting it every six months instead of every five years. This bridge was finished in 1831, replacing the 13th-century stone bridge.

Use Of Sandals Aids Foot Ills

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

ATHLETE'S foot (tinea pedis) is almost unknown among peoples who go barefoot. They might develop other diseases because of lack of protection of the skin, but a person with a stubborn ringworm infection between the toes might profit from this observation.

Wear sandals during the summer. It also will help to observe ordinary foot hygiene, such as avoiding injury and keeping the feet clean and dry. These practices should prevent recurrences, once the infection is cured.

Anti-ringworm tablets are of value in some fungal infections but are not the complete answer to athlete's foot. Topical applications should be used also. Whitfield's ointment, which came upon the scene 30 or more years ago, continues to be an efficient remedy. Also recommended are Desenex or soaking the feet in a dilute solution of potassium permangan-ate.

Tinea pedis is best diagnosed by a microscopic examination of the infected tissues. This is advisable whenever fissures, cracks, and scales are noted between the toes or when blisters develop on the foot.

These are the usual signs of ringworm but are not as reliable as we thought at one time. Fungi were found in only 5 to 10 per cent of a large group of individuals having foot lesions of this kind. This study shows there are other causes of skin conditions that resemble ringworm.

Some scaling of the skin between the toes is considered normal shedding. In addition there is more than one kind of athlete's foot. Several months ago we reported on the findings of a dermatologist from Florida, who wrote on eczema. He isolated "certain organisms from the scaly foci in 40 per cent of a group with lesions that looked like ringworm. Allergic chemicals in foot wear also leads to eczema, and irritation of the feet.

In addition the ringworm organisms have been isolated from persons with normal skin of the feet. All of this suggests that many are immune to the causative fungus.

(Dr. Van Dellen will send leaflet on athlete's foot if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

STROKE OMENS

V. M. writes: Are there any warning signals of an impending stroke?

REPLY

Yes — headache, dizziness, weakness, slurred speech and disorientation. These warning signs are not common, however, in the majority of stroke victims. (85 per cent) are sol forewarned.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

Many overworked business men are poorly organized.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Man has made great strides in the transportation field, but no transportation will ever be more popular than a ride on the gravy train. — Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

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A lot of the people who rock furiously demand highway improvement nevertheless strongly dislike going from 4pts to 5pts. — Chatham News.

Eisteddfod Festival

— National Geographic Society

Wales' annual Eisteddfod is a curious mixture of music, festival, literary competition, mystic ritual, patriotic rally, and family reunion.

The six-day Royal National Eisteddfod gives the Welsh an outlet for their musical gifts, natural eloquence and strong competitive instinct.

The 1962 Eisteddfod will be held from August 8 through 11 at Llanelly (pronounced Hlan-ethly). Competitions will range from brass bands to drama and from first-aid Remonstrations to poetry.

BARITONES BEWARE

A village's honor often rests upon the voices of its mixed choir, which spends a year rehearsing. A baritone who sings flat at a crucial moment may be an outcast in his home, town for weeks.

Could giant of pendillion sing, "Eisteddfod" event. Competitors are given a harp melody and a song lyric. They must set the words to an original tune that blends in with the harp melody at certain places and ends with it. Pendillion singing has become so popular that a shortage of harps has developed in Wales.

The two most important literary prizes are the chair and the crown. The chair is awarded for the best poem written in one of 24 complex traditional meters. The crown is given for the best verse in another meter. The englyn, a four-line epigram, also attracts many entrants.

Poets submit their verse under Welsh pseudonyms, such as Gwenallt, Para Cadr, Dic Bread. Identity of the winners is not revealed until they are formally declared and crowned by the Gorsedd of the Bards.

The Gorsedd is a society supposedly modeled after the ancient Druids. Actually, the rites and robes were devised in the late 18th century by Iolo Morganwg, a notorious forger of manuscripts. Though the ritifals are dubious, tradition has given them weight and dignity. Applicants for the Gorsedd must pass tests in Welsh language, literature, and music.

The emotional high point of the Eisteddfod is the welcoming of the "exiles." Welshmen — from all over the world who return for the festival. They are greeted with patriotic airs and hymns. In a typical year, some 200 exiles may come from as far away as New Zealand, Pakistan, and Argentina.

A WET CONTEST

At first Eisteddfod was held on the banks of the River Conway in the 6th century. Surprisingly, Prince Maelgwyn Gwynedd requested singers and harpists to play in the river before performing. The wet harps were out of tune, but the soggy singers cleared their throats and sang unfaltering. The Prince explained: "This proved the superiority of our music."

Bards were a privileged class in old Wales, so contests with small talent often claimed to be poets. In 1568 Queen Elizabeth decreed an Eisteddfod to weed out the "intolerable multitude" of vagrants and idle persons who named themselves minstrels, rhymers, and harpers."

After this housecleaning, Eisteddfod were held only sporadically until they were revived as an annual affair in the mid-19th century.

Capitalists In Russia

Financial Post

The instinct and the talent for making a profit do not die in so-called Communist societies.

The Moscow Narodny Bank was established in London, England, soon after World War I and still flourishes. Its shareholders are banks and trading companies in the Soviet Union. Its business is financing East-West trade.

Run on capitalistic lines, it is doing well. A. I. Doghonossov, chairman and managing director, reports that gross turnover rose from 1,100 million to 5,300 million in the past four years. Net profit for 1961 was 361,553, and a dividend of 12 per cent, tax-free, was paid to the government, presumably Marxist owners. In the homeland.

But in the Ukrainian city of Kharkov, a comrade named Chanisev, manager of a furniture factory, is in jail. Instead of furniture he produced knitwear, of which there was a scarcity, and sold it in the open market. But before he was caught he had run this profitable business for 11 years and accumulated a million in roubles, 175 neckties of all colors of the rainbow, dozens of suits, and several villas. Years and years.

In Leningrad, comrade Prozanets obtained similar results by producing mountain pens and pocket watches instead of armaments. He also is in jail.

Their initiative in supplying consumer demand deserved a better reward. But at least it is good to know that Russians are keeping their hands in for the time when the rigidities of the Communist system will be relaxed.

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