

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I. by the Thomson Company Ltd.

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

THURSDAY, DEC. 22, 1955

Fire Hazards

Fire is much in the news these days. Not a day passes but lives are lost and much property destroyed by that element which, as the old saying goes, is "a good servant but a bad master".

It is, of course, true that fires will happen, as other accidents do, despite the greatest care and prudence in management. Here, as in everything else, there is a modicum of chance.

Christmas brings its own dangers. Nothing is more dangerous than a dry, decorated tree near a fire. It can be a thing of beauty; and it can be a conveyer of tragedy.

A Wise Ruling

A report from Washington states that the United States Postmaster-General has made a new ruling with respect to messages hidden in parcel-post packages. Heretofore, this has been an offence regarded as almost criminal.

Now, in the United States at least, anyone who wants to enclose a few words in a parcel can do so without being secretive about it. All he has to do is to state the fact on the outside of the package.

Unfortunate Innovation

News of the elevation of Clement Attlee, retired leader of the British Labor Party, to the peerage was well received by the people everywhere regardless of their political attachments.

It seems, however, that Burke's Peerage, the official mentor of Brit-

ton royalty, is perturbed over the simple title the new earl has assumed. It was thought that he would select some such designation as Earl Attlee of Dorking—or of Walthamstow, or some other town or village with which he has special affiliation.

This, it must be admitted, would be most annoying to some peers of the realm; but not, one likes to think, to Earl Attlee, whose whole life so far, from the earliest days of his political apprenticeship to the moment he received from the hands of his Sovereign the accolade of nobility, has been one of honour unmingled with the slightest measure of vainglory.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is the time to watch those household fires.

As a Canadian Press report puts it: "The story's the same from chilled Charlottetown to shivering Saskatoon—clear and cold and more of the same to come."

Reports now circulating suggest that a contest is looming up between the United States and the Soviet Union for the control of the Antarctic. By the time the dispute is settled, the moon and perhaps outer space will be eligible for that sort of controversy.

If Secretary of Agriculture Benson does not find some way to solve the many problems that are facing the nation's farmers, it will not be because of lack of advice. Since Nov. 23, the day he asked the public to send in proposals by mail, he has been receiving 450 letters daily.

Evidently, the C.N.R. is not especially interested in securing the business of the transport companies on the Yarmouth-Bar Harbor ferry run. According to the President of the Nova Scotia-Newfoundland branch of the Canadian Warehousemen's Association, recently announced rates are so high that the trip can be made by land at less than half the cost.

Who discovered Antarctica? Admiral Fabian Von Bellingshausen of the Imperial Russian Navy, state the Soviets. A Yankee whaling skipper, Nathaniel B. Palmer, say New Englanders. Since New Englanders, unlike the Russians, do not claim to have discovered almost every piece of land and invented practically every gadget, their claim in this instance is the one more likely to be accepted by the non-Soviet world.

The National Tuberculosis Association of the United States has rendered a good public service in calling attention to the fact that tuberculosis is still a major cause of sickness and distress, although its death rate has been reduced very considerably in recent years by new drugs and developments in surgery.

Both Republicans and the Democrats appear to have agreed on one agricultural plan: the so-called "soil bank" scheme. This would pay government subsidies to farmers for taking acreage out of production and putting it in soil-conserving grass. The parties differ on the amount of money that should be set aside for the soil bank funds.

The Age Old Story



IF YOU DRIVE, GO CAREFULLY THROUGH

OTTAWA REPORT

Canada's First Christmas

By Patrick Nicholson

At this Christmas season, we can recall that it is 420 years since this religious observance was first celebrated in this country.

In the year 1535, Jacques Cartier led the first group of European explorers up the St. Lawrence River. His band consisted of 110 men, all on three tiny sailing ships named La Grande Hermine, La Petite Hermine and L'Emerillon.

Other customs have been brought to Canada by settlers from their native lands. Our accepted Christmas customs originate from all over the world. In addition to the religious observance, the tree and carols, these now include the greeting card, the gifts, the roast turkey, the stocking, holly and mistletoe, and even Santa Claus himself.

With all these trimmings, it is costing us a record sum estimated at over \$500,000,000 to say "Merry Christmas" in our Canadian manner this year.

Thanks to Canadian initiative, 18 countries gained admission to the UN this year. Many of them had waited outside for years.

The membership debates were perhaps the tensest that have taken place at the UN since the early days of the Korean war.

Canada's participation in the founding of the United Nations is a story that should be told to every Canadian.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sunde, M. D.

SOME HELPFUL MEASURES TO PREVENT SNORING For ages women have complained about snoring spouses. Men have, too, but less loudly—naturally.

He suggests tensing the soft palate surgically to prevent it from vibrating against the pharyngeal wall. It is the vibration of the soft palate and the uvula, the pendulous fleshy lobe of the palate, which is the source of this harsh, rattling sound.

Before resorting to surgery, however, I advise trying a more simple measure.

You can snore with your mouth open. So, just keep it shut. This might be a little difficult, however, since snoring often is merely a habit and your mouth sometimes automatically drops open when you fall asleep.

Various mechanical devices for keeping the mouth shut have been tried without a great deal of success. Some homemakers, at their wit's end, have tied bandages around the head and under the chin of their snoring husbands and report it has been effective.

Frequently you can stop snoring by turning the noisemaker on his side.

Nasal catarrh or throat trouble sometimes is the cause of snoring. In such cases, you should seek treatment by a doctor.

Enlarged adenoids might be the cause. They narrow and elevate the postnasal space, permitting the soft palate to vibrate.

Removing the pharyngeal tonsil will often cure snoring in such cases.

As far as hubby is concerned, there's a quick and easy way to halt his snores. Just wake him up.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A. E. S.: I have eczema at the back of my knee joint and other parts of my body. What causes it and is there any cure for it?

Answer: It is possible that the rash is due to what is known as psoriasis. Examination by a skin specialist would be advisable.

Eczema, as a rule, is due to some type of sensitivity. Treatment usually consists of finding the substance to which you are sensitive and eliminating it. The use of a bland ointment may be helpful.

national committee of scientists which will study and co-ordinate the effects which radiation has on man and his environment.

The 1955 assembly pointed out the great gulf which still divides Western countries from the so-called "anti-colonial" bloc.

Canada delegates watched in dismay as first France, then South Africa walked out in protest against what they considered meddling in their internal affairs.

OPPOSED U.S. CANDIDATE

On both occasions, Martin put out a statement reflecting concern over the effect which precipitate action by the Asian-African group could have on the future of the UN.

During the long-drawn-out battle between Yugoslavia and the Philippines for a non-permanent seat on the Security Council, Canada went along with Yugoslavia in opposition to the U.S. candidate.

The Russian-backed Yugoslav candidacy was based on a 1946 "gentlemen's agreement" which gave Eastern Europe a seat. Canadian delegates reasoned that if this agreement were scrapped, it would jeopardize the Commonwealth seat. The seat is due to go to Canada in 1957.

Canada's Maj.-Gen. E. L. M. Burns, who holds what has been described as the toughest mediation job in the world, was reappointed in August to another year as UN truce chief in Palestine.

Twice during the year—following the outbreaks at Gaza in February and at El Ajia in October—Gen. Burns made hurried trips to New York for consultations. He reported to the Security Council on Gaza.

The Poet's Corner

GIVE THEM THE SKY Do not refuse them the sky. Do not call them back. When they follow a bird's cry Or a red deer's track.

Let them go out to the snow On thronged shoes and skis; Set them free to the glitter and blow And drifts to their knees.

The children who wander alone Through the white hush of the woods Will learn in spirit and bone The slow peace their blood Needs for their dreaming. Oh, give

These far-eyed young Freedom to walk with their lives Star-spattered and strong.

—Frances Frost in the New York Herald-Tribune

Canada and The United Nations

By Jack Best Canadian Press Staff, New York

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NOTES BY THE WAY

"What's the matter with that boy?" asked the man up the street when his daughter's date rang the doorbell. "Too lazy to hunk the horn!" —Calgary Herald.

In Wellington, New Zealand, a special parliamentary committee has recommended that courts of law be empowered to make orders against the parents of delinquent children. Why? In eight cases out of ten the parents are primarily to blame. —Brantford Expositor.

Reports from Ottawa indicate that the Senate Finance committee, which has done a useful job in recent years, may confine its activities during the next session to examining the steady growth of the Civil Service. This should be all to the good — and diligent men and women in the employ of the government should benefit most from such a scrutiny. —Winnipeg Tribune.

The government intends to amend the National Housing Act next year so that more emphasis will be laid on rebuilding the older parts of cities, rather than on the expansion of suburbs. The approach is sound. It is more economical from the ratepayers' viewpoint to rehabilitate old sections because services are already installed. Moreover, rehabilitation brings a rise in assessments and revenue. —Ottawa Citizen.

For the benefit of those hunters whose "luck" hasn't been what it might have been these past few weeks, we print the words of Lake Simcoe district forester Arthur W. Lemay who says, "Things were different in Ontario back in the gay nineties." He recalls quail and wild turkey could be hunted legally for two months, woodcock for 4 1/2 months and pheasants and the golden plover for four months.

Contrary to popular belief, the northwest territories have agricultural possibilities. Surveys already carried out place the arable land in the territories at between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 acres.

This area is a favorite resort of American tourists so we have the opportunity to observe the way Americans drive in Canada. On the average they drive more slowly than our own people; they are Ontario cars, not American, which whizz along at 70 and 80 miles an hour.

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