The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Whose Responsibility?

It is noteworthy that a government bill to increase federal aid for technical and vocational training—with a new formula that will allow Quebec to take advantage of a bigger slice of the funds—breezed through three stages in the Commons in a single night this week. Apparently there was no objection at all to Ottawa expanding its activities in these directions.

With the changes, said Labor Minister MacEachen, the program may be the framework for a national vocational and technical education plan. But "it is for the Federal Government to propose and the provinces to dispose."

Why, one wonders, cannot the same formula be applied with respect to federal aid to correct the imbalance in educational opportunities across the country? This is what the Canadian Teachers Federation has requested. But it has been told by Prime Minister Pearson that "the provinces must take the initiative" in this matter. He made it disappointingly clear that his government felt no obligation to do so.

Yet, as the Federation brief set forth, even the practical matter of unemployment is affected more by the general level of education than by limited, short-term measures such as the Technical and Vocational Training Act. "Measures in any one field," it pointed out, "can never be satisfactory if built upon an unstable base. Additional training or retraining for jobs requiring technical skills cannot be effective unless those being trained have an adequate basic education. It is at this level—the provision of a generally high quality of basic education—that the problem continues in ever-increasing magnitude."

Why, then, this persistent sidestepping of federal responsibility? There is no more authority under the British North America Act for Ottawa providing technical and vocational training aid than for providing educational aid—no more reason why it shouldn't "propose" and let the provinces "dispose" in the one case than in the other.

No more reason, that is, apart from political expediency. Ah, there's the rub! That's what Mr. Pearson's fine-spun distinction boiled down to. Wouldn't it be franker if he had simply told the teachers that, instead of giving them the old run-around about provincial responsibility?

Mr. Diefenbaker's Charge

It is not often that Mr. Stanley Knowles, NDP Member for Winnipeg North Centre, and Opposition Leader John Diefenbaker are in agreement; but they found themselves on common ground in Parliament the other day in emphasizing that there is no place for party patronage on the Confederation Centennial Committee. Most Canadians, we fancy, will go along with them there. If the committee is to function effectively at all, it must be on a non-partisan basis, and it is the Federal Government's responsibility to give a lead in this respect.

According to Mr. Diefenbaker, this is precisely what it hasn't done. He charges that the 60-member advisory committee reads like a "Who's Who of Liberalism." The reference, presumably, is to the 40 members appointed by the Federal Government (the other 20 are appointed by the provinces) and the Opposition leader maintains that apart from a few members chosen to represent national organizations, the federal appointees are people "with no other qualifications than being members of the party now in power."

Quebec objects to the term "national" in connection with the centennial administration's title, and it is proposed to drop this word accordingly—over Mr. Diefenbaker's objections. Mr. Knowles doesn't agree with the Conservative leader on this point, maintaining that if the word causes offense, the House should give sympathetic consideration to dropping it. To avoid further wrangling over nomenclature, Mr. Knowles suggests that the legislation be called the Canadian Centennial Act rather than the Centennial of Confederation Act. But by whatever name it goes, surely the essence of the thing is what counts. And if the act is to give authority to a committee "packed with Grits", as Mr. Diefenbaker maintains, then it might just as well be taken over by the Liberal Party altogether.

One would imagine that the Pearson Government would go out of its way in forestalling criticism of this kind, by appointing outstanding men and women of all parties and walks of life. After all, it is only a minority government, and there are enough difficulties in the committee's way without courting objections as to the nature of its personnel.

If the Confederation Fathers had shown the same shortsightedness, we wouldn't have any centennial to be celebrating in 1967. They succeeded (under a great Conservative leader) in rising above partisanship. Cannot we emulate them at least in this respect, in preparing to honor the 100th anniversary of their achievement?

Incidentally, we wonder what the Confederation Fathers would say to the idea of scrapping the word "national" in the interests of national unity! What on earth will we be celebrating, if it comes to that?

Another Chicken Issue

The United States' "chicken war" with the European Common Market soon may spread to Japan. That's the word from United States poultry experts, who say that Japanese farmers are bringing pressure on their government to raise its duty on the American birds. American exports to Japan, which amounted to about 1,000,000 pounds in 1962, are expected to triple in 1963.

It was a rapid increase in U.S. exports to West Germany on a much larger scale which started the "war" in the West. At the peak of the trade the United States was shipping about 140,000,000 pounds of poultry annually to West Germany. The business was worth about $50,000,000 a year.

On August, 1962, the Common Market slapped a big duty on the American birds going into West Germany. Heavy American pressure, including at least one letter from President Kennedy to former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, failed to get anything that the U.S. considered a substantial reduction.

This summer the United States threatened to raise its tariffs on $46,000,000 worth of West European goods. Common Market experts acknowledged trade had been damaged but said the United States should take compensation only on $19,000,000. The evidence now is being examined by a panel appointed under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

European poultrymen tend to belittle the chicken issue. They claim that West Germany absorbed only 3 per cent of the total American production. The Japanese market, where a new chicken war between the U.S. imported product and the domestic product is in the making, no doubt represents an even smaller proportion. But American farm experts take a more serious view of the situation. They claim the West European duty on chickens is important because it shows the way the Common Market is tending—towards a policy of high tariff protection which could have grave results on inter-Allied trade.

EDITORIAL NOTE

After decades of claim and counterclaim, a Norwegian expedition now seems to have substantial proof of a Viking settlement in North America, one predating the voyage of Columbus by 500 years. The expedition unearthed the ruins on Newfoundland's northern tip.

THE BIG HUDDLE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Voting Patterns Shown In Official Release

Canada's Chief Electoral Officer, Nelson Castonguay, has released the first official tabulation of the voting in last April's general election.

There is nothing surprising in the disclosure that more Canadians voted in our 26th general election than in any previous election. Our steady growth of population should see each successive election establishing a new record. But it must make us exclaim "See Canada grow!" when we note that there were 1,290,000 more votes cast this Spring than there were in the election of June 1957.

The total vote this year was 7,894,076. But there were approximately 10,000,000 Canadians registered as eligible to vote. This is not a record to be proud of.

Comparison of the voting patterns over the last six general elections —those of 1949, 1953, 1957, 1958, 1962 and 1963—shows some interesting trends. In the middle of that period, there came a record sweep by the Conservative Party. The whole era is marked by a gradual increase in Conservative support leading up to that peak, and a subsequent decline.

This was matched by a reverse downtrend in support for the Liberal and socialist parties, followed by an upswing. And except for their eclipse in 1958, the Social Credit party has gained steadily in voter support over the whole era.

MINORITIES WOOED

Three of the last four elections have produced minority governments. The obvious responsibility of any parliament in these circumstances is to create some coalition which can control the House—as is attempted and generally achieved in every other democratic country where more than two parties obtain seats in the legislative assembly.

The early signs of courting and enticement are very evident on Parliament Hill now, in attempts to build up strong parties. This has not yet resulted in any admitted voluntary liaison, but history will reveal that one party has been raped.

The New Democratic, alias the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, is the only party which now stands where it did in 1949. In that year, and again this year, it won 13 per cent of the votes. The other small party, Social Credit, has tripled its electoral support — from 4 per cent in 1949 to 12 per cent this year.

The Conservatives are almost down again to their 1949 level. In that year they won 30 per cent of the votes, in the following elections they won 31 per cent in 1953, 39 per cent in 1957, 54 per cent in 1958, 37 per cent last year and only 33 per cent this year.

The Liberals had 50 per cent in 1949 and again in 1953; then they dropped to 42, 34, 37 and this year rose to 42 per cent. Meanwhile "other" candidates, independents, communists and blue-sky-yonder boys, have dropped from 3 per cent of the vote in 1949 to less than one half of one per cent this year.

The percentages show that the Conservatives have declined everywhere to a lower level of support than they received in 1957— which was the first "Diefenbaker" year— except on the Prairies. In nationwide support, they have dropped six percentage points since 1957. In Quebec, the drop has been 11 points; in Ontario it has been 14 points. In terms of the whole electorate, 2,100,000 potential votes have turned away from the Conservatives since 1958. This year the party received only 2,590,000 votes. The only conclusion which can be drawn from these figures is that the leader, John Diefenbaker, has gravely split the party. Yet on the Prairies, he won in 1963 290,000 more votes than he won in 1957.

The Liberal Party attracted 50 per cent of the votes in the first two St. Laurent elections, 1949 and 1953. But in his last election, 1957, Mr. St. Laurent's support dropped to 42 per cent. Liberal Leader Pearson can now say that the Party is where he found it.

Voice Man's Deep Emotions

National Geographic Society

The booming of great bells has marked moments of publication, sorrow, and solemnity ever since man first learned to cast metal.

Bells are heard everywhere. Their peals ring out from churches, schools, clock towers, government buildings, even banks. Tune-playing carillons, or sets of fixed bells worked from a keyboard, have long delighted music lovers.

In England, the art of bell ringing has reached a high level of intricacy and refinement.

The English technique of change ringing in which bells are pulled by hand rope is almost unknown in the United States. But the situation will soon be remedied when the 10-bell ring of the Washington National Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul begins sounding in 1964.

The Cathedral already has a 53-bell carillon dedicated and in use. It is the only church in the world with both kinds of bells.

Change ringing is a method of sounding sets of 4 to 12 bells in varying orders and in mathematically precise patterns. The tune is not important though the bells are pitched to ring harmoniously.

The number of permutations possible on a 10-bell ring is 3,628,800. It has been estimated that 10½ days of continuous ringing would be required to run through all the possible changes.

The various peals have been given names deriving both from the patterns and the number of bells on which they are rung. This has produced such evocative nomenclature as "Kent Treble Bob Major," "Double Norwich Court Bob," "Cambridge Surprise Maximus," and "Grandsire Triples."

Mental and physical agility—a good deal of both—is a prerequisite of change ringing. The men on individual ropes find it an exacting task to follow the changing order and time each pull at precisely the right moment.

An early English writer, quoted in Ernest Morris' Bells of All Nations, comments:

"Of all the Athletic Exercises or Amusements now in Practice, there are none so ranked in the Circle of Sciences of so noble a Nature, so conducive to Health, and Employing so many Faculties both mental and corporeal as that of the Art of Ringing."

The record number of changes for a team of ringers—21,600 in 12 hours 56 minutes—was set in 1930 at Winsford, England. In 1761, at Leeds, 40,320 changes were rung in 27 hours, but this was not accepted as a record because the ringers worked in relays. Ringing societies vie to establish records and uphold the high standards of the art.

The Washington Cathedral's 10-bell ring was cast in London's ancient Whitechapel Bell Foundry, which has been making bells since the early part of the reign of Elizabeth I. The Cathedral's carillon was cast by another old British foundry, the Loughborough Works of John Taylor & Co., in business since the 14th century.

Famous products of Whitechapel include London's Big Ben and the American Liberty Bell. The Liberty Bell cracked soon after arrival in the United States and was recast twice by two Americans, John Pass and Charles Stow Jr., whose name it now bears.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(November 21, 1938)

Realizing that student parades on Hallowe'en are a menace to public property, the Student Council of Prince of Wales College has decided that such parades will not be held in the future, but that a Hallowe'en celebration will be held in the college auditorium.

Miss MacDonald of Trenton, N.S., has accepted a position as organist of the Presbyterian Church, Summerside, and has taken over her duties. She is a guest at the Mawley House. Miss Hubley who was organist for some time, recently resigned.

TEN YEARS AGO
(November 21, 1953)

A navy helicopter was forced down due to engine trouble Wednesday afternoon near MacNeill's Mills in Prince County. The pilot Lieut. F. Harley, accompanied by two officers from the naval air unit of the RCAF Station here, had been up on a familiarization flight of the local terrain when the engine trouble occurred.

OTTAWA, Nov. 21/ Special/— Liberal women of Prince Edward Island will be represented at the Silver Anniversary meeting here this week, of the National Federation of Liberal Women of Canada, by Mrs. G. S. Inman of Montague.

The Neglected Bones

Financial Post

There is a fine old country house called Sulgrave Manor in Northants, England.

Ever since the Americans learned it was the home of the Washingtons, ancestors of the G. Washington who was father of their country, they have treated it with loving care. It is a shrine tended and adorned by their generosity and patriotic zeal.

Some time ago a member of the English family of Harmsworth bought a piece of land in Devonshire and found, by accident, that a small building on the property, called Wolford Chapel, was the tomb of Lt. Gen. John Graves Simcoe, first governor of Upper Canada and founder of Toronto.

For years Sir Geoffrey Harmsworth, on the natural supposition that Canadians would be interested, has kindly offered to give the chapel in perpetuity to this country. He has found no takers.

Last week the province of Ontario, clearly the most appropriate custodian of the chapel, finally got around to putting up a plaque; but that is as far as Ontario or anybody else has gone.

Have Canadians no interest in memorials of their past? Is it feared that the few pounds needed for a Wolford Chapel caretaker might unbalance the budget?

Cholesterol Conundrum

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Blood cholesterol and coronaries are old stories, but we still receive letters such as the following from New York: "Is it true some doctors do not approve of low cholesterol diets? If so, why not?"

We assume this reader means a low fat diet to decrease the amount of cholesterol in the blood. After all, this chemical is a fatty substance.

Most physicians believe this type of diet will bring down the level off cholesterol in the blood. But some do not recommend radical changes in the eating habits because they do not believe cholesterol is responsible for hardening of the arteries or coronary thrombosis.

Other medicos are not convinced that diminishing the cholesterol level lessens the chance of having another heart attack. When these physicians are questioned, they shrug their shoulders and say, "So why worry about the cholesterol fevel?" The followers of this school of thought have other arguments that cannot be disregarded.

There is no doubt that cholesterol is essential to life and is manufactured by almost every tissue of the body. Since the body produces its own, the minimal amount absorbed from food is only a drop in the bucket, even in those who consume a high fat diet.

But this is not all. Persons with extremely high cholesterol levels often live a long time. Heart attacks occur in many at age 70 or 80. Their cholesterol level usually is elevated, but why not blame their age?

The doubting medical Thomas also brings up the statistical fact that 20 per cent of those with coronary thrombosis have a normal cholesterol level. In addition, other origins of high cholesterol readings include a sluggish thyroid, insufficient exercise, obesity, tension, and heredity. These are some reasons why certain physicians do not recommend the low fat diet for all.

TWITCHING MUSCLES

F. R. writes: What is the cause of tetany?

REPLY

A deficiency of calcium, resulting from a variety of conditions such as disturbed secretions of the parathyroid glands, excessive loss of calcium from the body, or the hyperventilation syndrome. Tetany makes the muscles extremely irritable and they go into painful spasms or cramps when moved or touched.

SWOLLEN HAND

R. B. writes: Is there a medicine to dissolve the swelling in hand joints due to arthritis?

REPLY

One of the corticosteroids might do this, especially if swelling is in the center joint and the cause is rheumatoid arthritis. These steroids seldom are necessary when the joints next to the nail are involved.

USE THE SUBWAY

E. S. writes: Would riding horseback be harmful for a person who has had trouble with a slipped disk?

REPLY

Yes. I would tell you to take a chance if horses were the only means of transportation. But why tempt fate?

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT —

Tense muscles use up as much energy as overworked ones.

NOTES BY THE WAY

In many a case the person who isn't "getting what's coming to him" should be grateful instead of resentful— Sudbury Star

President Kennedy's argument for his foreign program can be applied to Canada as well as the U.S., figures adjusted: "Is this nation stating that it cannot afford an additional $600,000,000 to help the developing nations of the world become strong and free— an amount less than this country's annual outlay for lipstick, face cream and chewing gum?"— Ottawa Journal.

To whom it may concern: Of all the words of witch's doom, there's none so bad as which and whom The man who kills both which and whom will be enshrined in our Who's Whom— Detroit Free Press

A street salesman at the Flea Market sells nothing but second-hand doll's eyes. He was surprised to sell his entire stock to decorator- designer Francois Dallegret, who has made them into men's cuff links. They are the new chic fad for Parisians.— France Soir.

Acheson At It Again

By Joseph MacSween
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Dean Acheson has put the needle into Britain again—this time just when and where it hurts the government the most.

Acheson, the former United States state secretary, posed questions in a Monday speech which strike at the British government's claim to an independent nuclear deterrent.

This is a crucial issue between the Conservative government and the Labor opposition in the current parliamentary session and is likely to remain so in the next general election campaign.

As Lord Beaverbrook's Daily Express was careful to point out, Acheson, an adviser to President Kennedy, is the same man who said a year ago Britain was having difficulty finding its non-empire role in the modern world.

SUGGESTS DOUBT

The wording of Acheson's speech, made at Storrs, Connecticut, suggests he doubts whether Britain really has an independent deterrent—and in this he would find perfect agreement with Harold Wilson, leader of the British Labor party.

Urging closer American-West German collaboration, in defence, Acheson added:

"But to support separate and, supposedly, independent British and French nuclear programs, while offering Germany a different — though intrinsically better—multilateral one, both denigrates the effort to Germany and gives ground for a charge of discriminatory treatment."

Wilson has repeatedly said Britain's nuclear role will be neither independent nor a deterrent even after it has possession of U.S. Polaris missiles.

PM REPLIES

Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home has replied that under the Nassau agreement of last December Britain would have the right to use the weapon at a time of supreme need. Wilson's words were tantamount to accusing Britain a greatest ally, the U.S. of lying.

Douglas-Home isn't likely to take comfort from Acheson's remarks in view of the prestige of the American leader.

Several British newspapers carried reports of Acheson's speech side by side with that of Robert McNamara, U.S. defence secretary, with its heartening assessment of American and NATO power in Europe as compared with Communist forces.

But McNamara's speech in New York Monday — with its emphasis on U.S. nuclear might —seemed to suggest the need for Britain and European countries to develop conventional forces rather than nuclear weapons.

As it happens, this also fits with the Labor policy, which is for Britain to "phase out" of the nuclear field in view of soaring costs.

Needed: A Sobriety Pill

Milwaukee Journal

People will be people—and, therefore, they will drink at parties. That's the conclusion of Ira H. Cisin of George Washington university, who heads a study of the place of alcohol in American life.

The big problem, as Cisin sees it, is to find a way or ways to get people who have been drinking at parties to their homes without letting them get behind the wheel of a car.

Pool driving, according to Cisin, is being tried in many parts of the country. One member of a group going to a party is the driver. He doesn't drink all evening—just stands around looking bored and disapproving. But he can safely deliver sodden companions to their homes.

In Sweden a driver who has been drinking can call the police and, for a reasonable fee, they will drive him home in his own car. Cisin thinks that system is worth looking into. He thinks, too, that it would help if anyone convicted of drunken driving were henceforth limited to daylight driving.

Harry Golden, who has perceptive comments on most aspects of American life, has written that the old saw that a man who drinks alone is a serious problem doesn't make sense. The man who stays home and drinks alone isn't out on the highways endangering himself or everyone else.

The real answer to the problem, Cisin thinks, would be a sobriety pill which could quickly turn a drunk into a sober citizen again. The trouble is that no one has invented such a pill as yet—and few drunks would be willing to spend a lot of money attaining inebriation only to waste it all by quickly sobering up.

Nondrinkers would come up with the most obvious answer of all to the problem—let people who go to parties refuse to drink. But anyone who goes to many parties knows that wouldn't work—in no time every partygoer in the nation would be dead of sheer boredom.

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