The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

W. J. Hancox, Publisher

Burton Lewis — Executive Editor
Frank Walker — Editor

Published every week day morning (except Sundays and statutory holidays) at 165 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd. Branch offices at Summerside, Montague, Alberton and Souris.

Represented nationally by Thomson Newspapers Advertising Services Toronto, 425 University Ave. Empire 3-8894; Montreal, 640 Cathcart Street, University 6-5942; Western office, 1030 West Georgia Street, Vancouver (MA 7037).

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Not over 35c per week by carrier.

$11.00 a year by mail or rural routes and areas not serviced by carrier.

$14.00 a year all Island and U.K. $20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.

Not over 7c per single copy.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

PAGE 6 THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1963.

Test-Ban Hopes Linger

While President Kennedy was talking the other day about the nuclear test genie being "out of the bottle," with little hope of ever getting it back, a peculiar thing occurred at Washington. That very afternoon Premier Khrushchev sent the President another letter on nuclear firing, confirming once more the total paralysis of the Soviet position, moving neither forward nor back. Simultaneously, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and the Pentagon announced plans for two small nuclear tests in Nevada—one of which would have been the first above ground, that is, with radioactive fallout, by either great power in 1963.

Was this the way to keep the genie bottled? A Washington correspondent for the New York Times quotes some unnamed officials as saying the President had not even been consulted on the new tests; they were so tiny and so routine, with hardly any fallout likely to escape beyond the test site, that no one blinked as the plan moved through the executive bureaucracy.

But the officials who are desperately trying to keep the Geneva negotiations alive blinked, and jumped; and so did the less sanguine men who nonetheless were trying to make sure that the world blames Moscow, rather than Washington, for what might be the final failure of the long test-ban saga. And, of course, the Moscow radio made the most of the announcement.

The Russians had already been searching for a pretext for a prolonged recess in Geneva, possibly to avoid further exposure of their paralysis, possibly to prepare for a new round of tests later this year. The United Nations General Assembly was about to meet in New York, and the last thing anyone at Washington wanted was a test-ban debate in that forum.

Mr. Kennedy did participate in a new look at the situation and, despite the risks of political fallout in Congress, ordered the Nevada tests cancelled. It was the second such reversal in five months; in January Washington had cancelled some underground tests that had somehow been scheduled to coincide with the most intensive private test-ban talks in years.

The cancellation saved some embarrassment, says The Times correspondent; but the indications are that more than propaganda was involved. Washington may have decided that there was still a chance to reach agreement—if not now, then later—and that whatever unseen sparks of reason may be alive in Moscow, they ought not to be extinguished by inadvertence. Thus, though hopes are faint, the President apparently wishes to err on the side of negotiation; and even as the wicked genie escapes, he seeks to avoid being a party to the escape.

Little Public Interest

Complaint is made of the lack of public interest taken in the proceedings of the Royal Commission on Taxation. The Toronto Star recently ran an article about, and a picture on, the hearings in that city. One spectator was present when the picture was taken. Witnesses who attended the six-day hearing in Montreal reported that the commission's audience varied from about a dozen down to one.

Part of the apathy in this matter, suggests the Winnipeg Free Press, is doubtless due to the feeling of resignation with which most people view taxes. Death and taxes will always be with us and there is little we can do about either. Part may also be due to the fact that taxation today is a tremendously technical and complicated business, well above the average man's head.

The commission itself, however, may be responsible to a degree for some of the lack of interest. Briefs have been filed with the commission, but these are not read, nor even summarized, when the witnesses appear. In some cases copies of the briefs are handed out, but anyone in the audience then has to try to read the brief and listen to the witness at the same time.

It is complained also that lawyers for opposing organizations are not allowed to examine witnesses; counsel for the commission is used for this purpose where it is deemed necessary. As a result some private counsel are said to feel that it is a waste of their own time and their clients' money to attend the commission's hearings.

Whether changes in the commission's procedures would arouse more public interest in the job they are doing is debatable. But there is no question as to the vital nature of the subject with which it is dealing. Taxes hit us all, though few of us know to what extent. Included in the price of almost everything we spend money on—goods and services alike—there is a host of hidden assessments. And every year the bite of the national income taken by governments—federal, provincial and local—continues to grow. One can only hope that as the commission proceeds with its hearings the importance of its task will impress itself more vigorously on the public.

West Indian Complaint

Complaint with regard to discrimination against prospective immigrants from the West Indies has been made by Prime Minister Errol Barrow of Barbadoes, as reported in the Toronto Globe and Mail, which adds that there is fairly widespread suspicion that such discrimination does exist. By way of proof, it points out that only 618 persons of West Indian citizenship were admitted to Canada in 1962.

Prior to a change in policy announced by the Canadian Government in January of 1962, the numbers were considerably smaller. In 1961, for example, only 123 immigrants from the West Indies were admitted, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

When the Canadian Goverument announced its change in policy last year, it announced that any person in any country in the world was to be eligible for admission, subject to qualifications regarding his skills and his ability to support himself. This policy was a distinct improvement in principle, but the real test would be the way in which the Immigration Department administered it.

Despite the improvement in the numbers of West Indies citizens admitted, there is suspicion that the rules are not being observed as fairly as they might be. For example, Mr. Barrow suggested that in some cases it is difficult for West Indian young women to come here, despite their skills and training, unless they are prepared to work as domestics.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All ten provinces recorded an increase of student enrolment in universities for the 1962-63 academic year, ranging from 3.2 per cent in Prince Edward Island up to 15.7 per cent in Alberta.

* * *

"In a completely candid world," writes the noted commentator Joseph C. Harsch in the Christian Science Monitor, "Mr. Khrushchev and President Kennedy could sit down together and end the cold war overnight for the simple reason that times have changed and they now have more interests in common than in conflict. Both know that the most aggressive and restless country today is Communist China; that the only real beneficiary of an American-Soviet conflict would be China. One reason they cannot get together candidly and settle these problems rationally is because so many people have such large vested interests in Soviet-American conflict."

SAILORS' HORNPIPE

TO STUDY BICULTURALISM

Royal Commission Proposal Discussed

Montreal Gazette

While the composition of the Royal Commission on biculturalism is still under consideration, there is still time to consider very thoroughly just what its aims and methods ought to be. The important thing is that its aims should be realized as fully as possible. And this can be done only if no obstacles are placed in its path by its terms of reference.

Some difficulties would appear to lie in the conditions for the Royal Commission outlined in the Quebec Legislature by Hon. Paul Gerin-Lajoie, the minister of Youth. Mr. Gerin-Lajoie requires that the Commission "must absolutely study the question of biculturalism and bilingualism in full measure and all aspects." He is concerned that it should bring down realistic and "concrete" recommendations, not mere generalities that mean little or nothing. The Commission, in other words, should be both wide and definite.

On the other hand, Mr. Gerin-Lajoie emphasizes that the Royal Commission "must respect provincial autonomy in its mandate as much as in its conclusions."

PRINCIPLES SOUND

Each of these principles, taken separately, is sound. The difficulty comes when they are combined. For the hard fact is that many of the problems and solutions in biculturalism in Canada lie within provincial jurisdiction. This is true, among other fields, of a field that may matter most — education.

If the Royal Commission were to consider biculturalism and bilingualism "absolutely in full measure and all aspects," it would be obliged to examine the conditions within the provinces and to make concrete recommendations concerning them. But this would bring this federal Commission directly into affairs that lie within the rights of the provinces.

It would be possible, of course, for the Royal Commission to confine itself to a thorough study of matters that lie strictly within federal authority. This would give it scope, certainly, for much useful work, especially regarding bilingualism in all the branches of the federal Government's many services.

OVERFLOW BOUNDARIES

Yet it is difficult to believe that a Royal Commission, limited in this way, could really hope to meet the needs of the time. For the problems of biculturalism overflow all boundaries. They cannot be realistically confined to one jurisdiction.

But in a matter of such delicacy and urgency as biculturalism it becomes of primary importance that the interest and co-operation of the provinces should be from the first attracted and secured, as far as it may be possible. The danger of a Royal Commission that would enter into provincial matters, with the intention of making concrete recommendations as to how the provinces should change their ways, is that it could give rise to some degree of withdrawal and resistance.

URGENT AND VITAL

This would be all the more frustrating, in that it is upon the provinces and the provinces to play their part that any realistic adjustments may be worked out. And if the provinces feel that their autonomy has been invaded by the methods of the Royal Commission's investigations, they may be prejudiced against its recommendations, even before these recommendations have been brought down.

Now is the time to consider how real this difficulty may be, and how it may best be solved. For it is just because the task of examining the problems of biculturalism and bilingualism is so urgent and vital that nothing should be done at the start that might prejudice the success of the Commission in the end.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

GOING BACK HOME

Sir, — Over the long holiday weekend most people we talked with were going back home, or thinking about it. One lady told us she was going home and her home was in the Western States, and another fine couple we know were leaving for Alaska to be home with their family for the holidays. Going home is a wonderful thing for all of us. Fathers and mothers wait and watch for us to come home again, no matter where we are.

With these thoughts in mind I went home to the old home I left many many years ago as a youth to steer my own ship on the stormy sea of life. Yes, I thought, I will go home; it seems so long since I was home. But the joy of the old home was not there any more. Mom and Dad had long since gone to their eternal home. It was then I realized I had many years ago in this lovely month of May gone home to go with them to the very door of Eternity, only to come back alone. I looked at their rooms, at many of their things as they had left them for the Tomorrow that never came.

I looked across the lawn and the fields where we had so many times walked and played in that long ago. I looked around for the family. Some of them were also missing; they too had gone from the old home forever. So there in the long holiday I thought of the many times I should have gone home when Mom and Dad were there. I thought of the many times they waited for my footsteps that did not come in the stillness of the night, of the many times my place was vacant. Today the birds sing just the same around that old home and build their nests in the swaying trees, and the rippling brook flows on the same. Only a short distance away there are at rest in the family plot with others of the family, where some holiday weekend like this I will join them at rest near the old home we loved so well.

So with the holiday season around again let us all plan a little trip home to gladden the hearts of our loved ones if they are still there, and remember that some day, some place — sooner than we realize—we too will reach the end of the trail.

I am, Sir., etc.,
WALTER A. O'BRIEN,
Charlottetown.

Laser Development

National Geographic Society

One day in February, 1963, scientists transmitted a television picture by means of a thin beam of scarlet light.

Not long before, a similar light was used to detect a directional change equivalent to one fifteen-thousandth of a degree on a compass.

In 1962, a ray of light aimed from a laboratory in Massachusetts reached the moon and bounced back to earth in less than three seconds. In another laboratory, intense light energy punched a hole through a diamond.

All these events marked significant advances in the development of lasers, promising newcomers in Space Age technology.

The term "laser," an acronym, is formed from the initial letters of the device's function — light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation.

MARCHING SOLDIERS

A laser makes of ordinary light what a drill sergeant makes of fresh recruits. It organizes the haphazard agglomeration of light waves of all colors that makes up white light and sends it out in orderly platoons of single - color waves that move in one direction, all in step.

In the process the light waves acquire great power and range. Signals can be transmitted on the single-color waves just as they are on radio waves.

The potential uses of such light beams are myriad. They range from knifeless surgery to instant death.

Lasers were an outgrowth of earlier devices called masers—for microwave amplification by stimulated emission of radiation. Masers were used in the Telstar communications system to strengthen signals sent down by the satellite.

Lasers, which work in the visible spectrum at much higher frequencies than masers, were first demonstrated in 1960.

MILITARY VALUE

A laser can be used as a super radar that can detect minute detail or measure speeds from five miles per second to less than one ten-thousandth of an inch per second. It might be developed into a missile - destroying "death ray." The Defense Department is interested in possible military applications. Russian scientists have lasers, too.

Doctors have used lasers to perform delicate surgery, such as destroying eye tumors or replacing detached retinas.

Lasers' greatest potential appears to be in the field of communications. Engineers have estimated that a single laser beam could carry millions of separate telephone conversations, or hundreds of television programs—many times more than the capability of present-day land or underwater cables or point-to-point radio broadcasts.

The invention of the laser has been compared in significance to that of the vacuum tube. The almost daily appearance of lasers in the news indicates their growing importance and foretells a time when the unfamiliar devices may become as common as the electric toaster.

NEGROES SENTENCED

PAARL, South Africa (Reuters)—Three Negroes were sentenced to death Wednesday in connection with the Paarl riots last November in which two whites were hacked to death and seven Negroes killed. Five other Negroes were sentenced to 18 years in prison each and eight to 12 years each. Five Negroes were acquitted.

USED SHELLS

The nomadic bushmen of Africa's Kalahari Desert have used the fragile ostrich shell for centuries to carry water.

The FLYING DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT "Your Island Steak House"

Asthmatic Child Worries Mother

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

A TEXAS mother from San Angelo has a real problem. "I have a 13-year-old son who has had bronchial asthma since he was 19 months old. We are worried about his health and his school work and want your opinion. I must admit his asthma is not as severe as it has been, but recently, his sinuses have been giving him trouble, causing severe headache."

The adage that tots outgrow asthma is true occasionally but this child demonstrates the more frequent situation. It is senseless to wait for spontaneous recovery because other problems crop up to complicate the picture.

There is no substitute for finding and eliminating the cause. Pollen is suspected when asthma recurs at the same time each year. Housedust, molds, animal dander, and feathers are possibilities if the child is plagued by wheezing all year 'round. Other clues are obtained when the attack follows eating certain foods, a respiratory infection, or an upsetting emotional situation.

When the origin cannot be found, there is nothing to do but give medicines that offer temporary relief. These include eplnephrine, isoproterenol, an antihistaminic agent, potassium iodide, or — finally — one of the corticosteroids.

But this is only part of the story. This woman is concerned about her youngster's health and his school work. Most children with a chronic ailment develop anxieties and emotional difficulties at school and in the home. These factors often aggravate existing asthma.

Change of climate is one of the oldest approaches to the problems of the asthmatic. I am not familiar with the climate in San Angelo, Texas, but Arizona and New Mexico often are called ideal. Colorado and Florida also are mentioned.

But moving has its drawbacks and may not be successful unless the cause of the asthma is known and a trial period has established the fact that the new location is helpful. When the wheezing youngster benefits, authorities may give credit to the separation of the child from the family rather than to the warm dry air. Here again, the emotional aspects of chronic asthma enter the picture.

SUGAR AFTER CANDY

H.J. writes: Will sugar show in the blood of a nondiabetic after she has eaten a lot of candy?

REPLY

Yes. When candy is eaten by anyone, the sugar level in the blood will go up within an hour and then return to normal. The same happens in the diabetic except that the level remains elevated for two or more hours thereafter.

MEASLES VACCINE

Mrs. W. Writes: Is the measles vaccine now given to all infants like the other protective shots?

REPLY

No, in that the exact prophylactic program has not been worked out on a national basis. But public health authorities are watching the results carefully.

PROSTATE AND FERTILITY

W.T. writes: Could a man become a father after his prostate is removed?

REPLY

Yes, theoretically. The prostate does not manufacture the sperm. It forms some of the fluid in which these germs cells are carried to the outside.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Not all breast lumps are malignant but all should be investigated.

NOTES BY THE WAY

When you are young you do a lot of wishful thinking; when you are older, you do a lot of thoughtful wishing. — Galt Reporter.

When you consider the price of a steak, it's easy to understand why cows are sacred in India. — Calgary Herald.

The Carter Royal Commission has been given a long list of loopholes in the Income Tax Act. Couldn't they have been mentioned before April 30? — Hamilton Spectator.

Motorists, after being told that cars needed tail fins — to give stability at high speeds — and wraparound front windscreens — for greater visibility —now find that neither of these appear in the latest cars. They may be forgiven for being a little cynical about the importance of having four, rather than two, headlamps. — The Times, London.

A driver is never better than when a police car is just behind. — Ottawa Journal.

Through the years, by far the most attractive bait for suckers is an offer of something for nothing. — Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

For all that radio and its cousin television keep the air waves vibrating most of 24 hours of all our days, it may well be that they have not yet matched the output of sound achieved by bells. Bells have been ringing since 400 A.D., continuously, somewhere or other. — Christian Science Monitor.

A library card has been likened to a key, a key not only to endless pleasure in reading from the oldest books of mankind to the latest best sellers, but to funds of information covering a range of subjects from business, hobbies to succeeding in marriage. — Sherbrooke Record.

Nasser Plays Waiting Game

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser is displaying outward calm and apparent patience over events which appear to threaten the proposed new Egypt-Iraq-Syria united Arab republic.

His waiting game may achieve what he failed to bring about in the earlier Arab federation—a united Arab community under his control.

Nasser, throughout most of the Arab world since the 1952 ouster of King Farouk, suffered a blow to his prestige in 1961 when the old U.A.R. blew up.

Egypt and Syria merged into the United Arab Republic in 1958, then formed a federation with Yemen. But a revolutionary regime in Iraq turned violently against him. Yemen became distrustful of his socialism and broke with him. Finally, in 1961, a coup wrenched Syria out of the U.A.R.

The Ba'ath socialist party, the power behind revolutions in Iraq and Syria earlier this year and now in full control of both Iraqi and Syrian governments, had a leading role in taking Syria out of the first U.A.R., claiming Nasser suppressed its activities.

The Ba'athists in Syria continue as the apparent fly in the ointment even though they were behind the revolutions which led directly to the new union talks in April.

These talks resulted in agreement among Egypt, Iraq and Syria to establish a new Arab federation.

Plebiscites to approve the union and elect a transitional president—expected to be Nasser—were scheduled for Sept. 17. The transitional president would rule for 20 months with a council made up of six members from each state, then elections would be held to fill the presidency and two legislative houses of the new federation.

The Ba'athists in control of Iraq and Syria could outvote Nasser 2 to 1 in the presidential council.

NASSER HAND STRONG

The Ba'athists support Arab unity and socialism but advocate parliamentary democracy along Western lines. Nasser wants a monolithic political machine he can control.

If he waits long enough, he may get it since he plays from a strong hand. He can manage well without Ba'athist support and, for that matter, without immediate federation with Syria. But there is doubt whether the Ba'athists can stay in power long if the federation fails.

Nasser's patience was apparent during the weekend when he made no furious counter-attack as the Syrian National Revolutionary Council issued a statement accusing Nasser and Syrian adherents of betraying the March 8 revolution.

There followed a peace offer from Premier Salah Bitar of Syria who promised to lead his Ba'ath government into the federation, then step down.

Bitar—and Nasser—no doubt are aware that the drive for unity is among the strongest national emotions in the Arab world. It is seen as the road to power, dignity, wealth and glory—and anyone who blocks it does so at his own risk.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
May 23, 1938

Charlottetown Gyros observed the 10th anniversary of the founding of their club here at a "birthday" dinner at the Canadian National Hotel, Monday. The international message was brought by Gyro Reg. Spencer of Moncton. An enjoyable program included numbers by Harry Gomez, the Downe sisters and Edward Bowgeault. Gyro William Monaghan, club president was chairman.

Of interest to poultrymen in this province is the shipment of a quantity of Grade A large eggs to Glasgow, Scotland, by the P.E.I. Cooperative Egg and Poultry Association. This marks the first shipment of fresh eggs from this province since the new trade agreements came into effect a few years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO
May 23, 1953

The M.V. Canadian Cruiser arrived in port yesterday morning and docked at the Railway wharf where 400 puncheons of molasses were unloaded for entry finds the cruiser is under command of Captain O'Hara. Full cargo was taken on at Kingston, Jamaica with Charlottetown the first port of call.

R.W. Lockhart of Kingston, P.E.I. who has been manager of Prescvick Airport in Scotland has now been appointed manager of Trans-Canada Airlines at Dorval Airport, in Montreal.

A young Canadian air ace, Maj. William George Barker — known as Billy Barker — alone successfully battled 60 German planes. Author Air Chief Marshal Sir Philip Joubert and illustrator Allan Mardon give a graphic account of the spectacular air battle on Oct. 27, 1918 during World War I in your Weekend Magazine this Saturday.

THE EVENING PATRIOT