THE GUARDIAN

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"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"

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

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1955

Hospital Organizations Meet

All our citizens will join in the greetings which will be extended today by His Worship Mayor Stewart to the visiting members of the Maritime Hospital Association, the Maritime Hospital Aids Association and the Maritime Exhibitors Association. The organizations are representative of ninety-one hospitals in the four Atlantic Provinces, and the convention will continue its sittings until Friday, when an important session will be held to receive the report of a joint commission appointed to investigate Blue Cross-Hospital relations. Sectional meetings, round table discussions, and addresses by special speakers will occupy a large part of the intervening time.

Mass opportunity for hospitalization represents one of the great developments of our age. Such organizations as the Blue Cross and hospital associations function for the purpose of spreading the benefits of high-quality hospital care at the lowest feasible cost to the public. Advances in medical science, bringing under control many of those diseases which formerly caused high mortality rates, have presented new problems in hospital care and accommodation. Federal and Provincial governments are interested directly in these matters through national health programs and other activities. Some idea of the scope of the work may be gathered from the fact that in 1953 the total capital and operational expenditure for health in Canada was, for hospitals alone, approximately $500,000,000.

The word "hospital" derives from the Latin "hospitium", a place where guests ("hospes") were received; and in early times the institutions served for the accommodation of travellers as well as victims of disaster. By the fourth century, A.D., Christian communities had established hospitals for lepers, cripples, the blind and the sick poor; but it was not until 1853, during the Crimean War, that Florence Nightingale achieved the first effective co-ordination of scientific medicine and humanitarian care of patients in hospitals. Since that time, a bare summary of the progress made fills several columns in the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

The subject grows ever more complex with the increasing diversification of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and the broadening of hospital clientele and practices. Widely organized prepayment plans to finance hospital care are on the increase, both in Europe and on this continent. Recent studies have thrown much light on services needed, their use and cost; also on the urgent necessity for better community planning for closer co-operation between hospitals and other health and welfare agencies, for less extravagant duplication of equipment and services, for preventive health care in clinics co-ordinated with hospitals, for visiting nursing and medical treatment in the homes, and for institutions for chronics and convalescents.

The Atlantic Provinces are keeping abreast of these and other developments, largely through the efforts of the organizations represented at the convention this week in Charlottetown. Their deliberations will be of interest to us all, and the conclusions reached may play an important part in shaping future hospitalization advances.

Long-Lived Governments

Commenting on the election results in Prince Edward Island last week, the Globe and Mail says that the remarkable thing about the return of a Liberal Government after holding power for twenty years is that it is not remarkable. Nova Scotia has had a Liberal Government for twenty-two years; and in Manitoba, a Liberal Progressive Government is still going strong after thirty-three years in office. (It needs six more years to equal the record—1897 to 1936—set by the Liberals in Quebec). The Social Credit Government now seeking re-election in Alberta has held power for twenty years. The Socialist Government of Saskatchewan, and the Union Nationale Government of Quebec, are both marking their eleventh anniversary. Ontario's Conservatives have been twelve years in office. And finally, there is the Liberal Government at Ottawa, which on October 14 will pass the twenty-year mark.

Excluding Newfoundland (which was under Commission Government before entering Confederation in 1949), only two of Canada's Governments have been unseated within recent years. In 1952, after seventeen years under a Liberal regime, New Brunswick went Conservative. The same year, British Columbia elected a Social Credit Government in place of the Coalition one which had ruled it for eleven years.

"How," asks the Globe and Mail, "are these long tenures of office to be explained? Have the various Governments concerned ruled so well and so wisely that any change is unthinkable? We do not believe so. It seems to us there are two reasons for the longevity of present-day Governments in Canada. One is that Canadians have had sixteen years of war and postwar prosperity. Comfortable, and indeed complacent, they have been in no mood for upsetting political applecarts.

"The other reason is that longevity tends to breed longevity. When Governments change every few years, the Opposition parties remain alert, hopeful and well organized. Their turn will come again. But when Governments do not change, when they are returned in election after election, the Opposition parties are in danger of losing heart. They drift from one leader to another, from one platform to another. Worse yet, they try to imitate what seems to them the successful platform of the party in office. This is the biggest error of all; losing their character and personality, they no longer present a real alternative to the party in office, and so there is no point in voting for them.

"Opposition parties in all Provinces, and in Ottawa itself, will best serve themselves and the electorate by presenting (however hopeless it may appear) real alternatives. The time must come—it always has—when people want a change. And in any event, Governments in office, especially Governments long entrenched, should be constantly under criticism from Oppositions which know what they are about."

Unnecessary Handicap

It is now clear that Prime Minister Eden will go to the Big Four meeting not only with the consent of the British electorate but with the approval of all schools of political thought in the United Kingdom. Indeed, one of his very sincere well-wishers will be Mr. Attlee who, only a few days ago, contended with him for the Prime Ministership. Had the election gone differently, Mr. Attlee would have spoken for the British people, and he would have been cheered on by Sir Anthony. It all adds up to a position of strength for the British view at the conference.

For President Eisenhower the situation is somewhat different. Leaders of his own party are divided on the question whether the President should have consented to attend; a few, such as Senators Knowland and Jenner, seem to look upon the President's decision almost as an act of appeasement. Fortunately, most Democratic leaders are favourable to the meeting. Senate majority leader Walter George has given his full consent to the President's acceptance; in fact it was he who suggested it in the first place. These facts are, of course known to Moscow officials, and it means that the conference will find the President working under an unnecessary handicap. Obviously, since the mere fact of his attending the talks is causing uneasiness among influential members of his own political party, he is going to find it hard to convince the Russians that American public opinion is behind any move that might be made to ease East-West tensions. Even under the best conditions, it would have been difficult enough for the summit meeting to produce anything really helpful; in view of the divisions that are apparent in Washington, it is going to be more difficult still. Considering the well documented fact that the Soviet leaders respect strength and nothing else, it seems a pity that these divisions were allowed to develop into a full dress political controversy.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is reassuring to hear from Dr. Leonard Scheele of the United States Public Health Service that, from now on, safety and not haste will guide the Polio Vaccine program. If that had been the policy at the beginning, much public confusion and fear would have been avoided.

* * *

Aneurin Bevan's rebellions nature may have been a factor in the British Labour Party's losses in last week's election. Yet it is to be noted that the number of Bevanites in the new Parliament will be no smaller than it was in the old one. It would be quite wrong to assume that Mr. Bevan's extreme leftism is no longer an influential factor in British politics.

* * *

The chance to buy Ford Company stock at half the market price may not seem much of a boon to the CIO United Auto Workers who are reported to have turned down a company "package" which included that privilege. A great many people, however, would be only too pleased to get into a profitable business so easily.

Co-Workers

King Baudouin's Tour

National Geographic Society

King Baudouin's tour of the Belgian Congo marks a new milestone in development of a vast expanse of brightest Africa that supplies the United States with atomic raw materials.

The 24-year-old monarch, seeing the Congo for the first time, is visiting the uranium-producing southeast corner. But in a three-week air journey he will also be mindful of the Congo's hospitals, farms, industries, housing and the welfare of his 12,000,000 African subjects.

King Baudouin finds a booming land that has made king-sized strides since the Congo Free State was set up under his great-grand-uncle, Leopold II, in 1885, says the National Geographic Society.

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

The Belgian Congo embodies Africa's enchantment. It is big: larger than all the United States east of the Mississippi. It is rugged: the jungle slopes of the "Mountains of the Moon" rise to perpetually snow-clad peaks of more than 16,500 feet, and Lake Tanganyika on its border is the second deepest (4,700 feet) in the world. It is tropical: the Congo River, unique among large waterways, crosses the Equator twice.

The Congo is productive: ever more abundantly it yields copper, cobalt, zinc, manganese, gold, tin, industrial diamonds, palm-oil, coffee, cotton, rubber, timber, quinine, pyrethrum and beef. The Congo is wild: elephants, giraffes, atelopes, rhinoceroses roam Garamba National Park; Lake Albert seethes with crocodiles; buffaloes, hippopotamuses and lions inhabit Albert National Park; gorillas haunt the forests near Lake Kivu.

But the Congo is also a land of people. Some lead primitive lives, such as the Pygmies and Mangbettu tribes, both in the northeast where the long tapering skull was once a sign of distinction and where the rhythmic beat of hollow log drums still arouses frenzied dancers.

Other Congolese, learning modern ways, are employed in tapping resources that give the Congo its strategic role in world affairs. In the rolling bushland at Shinkolobwe they help mine uranium ore, vital to the security of the United States. Here and elsewhere equipment marked "Made in U. S. A." lightens the work load — huge shovels, generators, mining tools and even X-ray machines in medical laboratories.

"LEO" THE CAPTIAL

What is happening in the colony is the story of what has happened in more concentrated form in its capital, Leopoldville.

The city, dubbed Leo, borders the lower Congo River. Little more than 40 years ago it was a town of 40 Europeans and 20,000 natives. Now it is a bustling city of 12,000 Europeans and 325,000 natives. Since World War II it has more than doubled in size. Tribal womenfolk and their children queue up for treatment at one of the largest hospitals in Africa. Lush gardens and luxuriant trees frame attractive homes. Autos, trucks and taxes, mostly of American make, rumble along streets. In the native sections new houses and new markets sprout continually. A stadium seating 75,000 persons and a recreation center were completed not long ago.

Compressed air drills, the metallic clang of pile drivers, the dull throb of bulldozers, rather than the beat of tom-toms, are setting the pace of Leopoldville, as all over the Congo today.

P.E.I. Election

(Montreal Star)

Ontario has long been a provincial Conservative stronghold. New Brunswick, at its last election, voted in a Conservative administration. These two swallows, however, do not appear to make a summer. Prince Edward Island, after 20 years of Liberal rule, refused on Wednesday to turn its political coat. The Liberals, under a new leader, swept the boards.

We find this result somewhat disturbing. Good as the Liberals may be, the Liberal party, like any other political party that ever existed, cannot stay that good forever. A turn in opposition would be a fine experience. It reduces complacency and arrogance. It is also just possible that the experience might shake up its thinking. As to the opposition, a turn in office would be good for it too. Parties long out of power become both discouraged and irresponsible. The active conduct of administration not only cheers them up, but also gives them a sense of reality which long years in the wilderness do not induce.

These generalities, applied to Prince Edward Island, have a wider application. In the federal field, the Progressive-Conservatives have been out of power for almost 20 years. More and more, observers are seeking signs of a Tory renascence. They look for it hopefully in the provinces, encouraged by the turnover in New Brunswick. But the Prince Edward Island election is a discouraging setback. The Conservatives, who badly needed something to shout about, must now find themselves in that province in about the same state of disorder as the provincial Conservatives in British Columbia who were virtually wiped out in the last voting there.

A New Challenge

(Ottawa Citizen)

Following the signing of the Austrian independence treaty, a more optimistic atmosphere is reported prevalent in Europe. In the main, it has been induced by the fact that Moscow made genuine and unexpected concessions. The question of the size of Austria's armed forces and on control of Austria's industries.

Coupled with recent Soviet proposals on disarmament, which are closer to the Western view than anything yet suggested by Moscow, the concessions made in Austria bespeak a new, conciliatory approach. Observers in Europe believe that internal economic stress in the Soviet Union, as well as demands for military aid from Russia's allies, especially China, have caused Moscow to seek an easing off in the cold war.

Perhaps equally important, Russia may be seizing an opportunity made possible by a new situation that has arisen since the development of the hydrogen bomb. There is evidence that a growing number of nations seek neutrality. In this sense ,neutrality means to be uncommitted militarily as part of a peacetime alliance with one side or the other. Austrian neutrality has been promised its fences in Yugoslavia, although Belgrade is militarily bound to the West through an alliance with Turkey and Greece, both NATO countries. Russia will, undoubtedly, also seek to obtain German neutrality in return for unification.

In Western capitals, some fresh thinking will have to be done on the whole question of neutrality. Neutrality does not necessarily save a nation from becoming a battleground, or from the need to take sides in a war, as Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg have found. Nor does a military neutral status prevent a country from being oriented to one side or the other in its cultural attitudes, in trade and in its friendships, as Switzerland and India have shown. Indeed, such orientation is inevitable. Up to a point, therefore, neutrality is an academic concept.

Nevertheless, its psychological appeal runs deep, especially since the advent of the hydrogen bomb. It must be recognized and dealt with on its own terms, as Russia is evidently seeking to do—which may mean, in future, a growing emphasis by the West on trying to obtain cultural and economic alliances with the nations to whom military neutrality may seem advantageous. If this new challenge is not met, the West may find that the Russians have stolen a march on it.

Nature Untamed

(Moncton Transcript)

Action by the United States Weather Bureau in establishing storm information centres to warn the public of approaching disturbances of dangerous proportions is another forward step in man's continual battle against nature. While control of the elements seem still far in the future, an important service can be given to the public in giving adequate warning of approaching danger so protective measures can be taken.

The vagaries of nature are still an almost unpenetrated secret, as witness the tornadoes and electrical storms that wreaked havoc in the south-central United States. Striking with unexpected suddenness the vicious storms snuffed out many lives in Kansas and Oklahoma. Had it been possible to give advance warning of the approaching storms there might have been time to take precautions that, although property damage would not be lessened, lives could have been saved.

As with the atmospheric disturbances, nature also ran rampant this year in the prairie provinces, sending floods of water to inundate thousands of acres of valuable crop land. Here, however, although damage has been estimated as high as $23,000,000 in Saskatchewan alone, no lives were lost. It was not possible to stem the rising waters as they broke through man-made barriers, but because there was time for the necessary precautions no lives were lost.

This gives a degree of comfort to lessen the blow to the economy of Canada, suffered in the probable loss of approximately 16 per cent of the predicted wheat crop.

Again forest fires have raged through Nova Scotia and Ontario in recent days, causing millions of dollars loss in natural resources and, in Nova Scotia particularly, in private property. Here again, because of the time element it was possible to warn residents in the danger zone so that they were able to prevent loss of life.

In this part of Canada there is little danger from floods. And last fall there was experienced here the value of early hurricane warnings. Forest fires, of all the "natural" catastrophies, are the most nearly controllable, and, because few do arise from natural causes, every effort should be taken to ascertain that they do not occur as a result of human negligence.

And as great strides have been made in recent years in developing protection against forest fires, it is hoped that the newly established storm warning centres will lead to other precautionary measures that can be taken to help mankind in the battle against nature.

New Light On Stonehenge

Montreal Gazette

Prehistoric man wasn't the apelike dullard he's been painted. Discoveries in Britain continue to stress that he was much brainier than has generally been supposed.

Astronomers have believed for some time that the famous shrine of Stonehenge was consecrated on June 21, 1840 B.C. — 3,795 years ago — because on that day the first rays of sunlight would have streamed along the axis of the great stone enclosure. The design of the shrine, they believe, proves that man, at that date, knew enough astronomy to predict this sunrise effect.

The 14-foot columns at Stonehenge were lowered into their pits by burning the charcoal with which the pits were first filled, an ingenious engineering job. Samples of the charcoal remaining in the pits were sent to the Institute of Nuclear Studies, in California. By carefully checking the radiation of the samples, the Institute estimated they had been burned roughly 3,798 years ago, remarkably close to the astronomer's calculation.

Stonehenge is more than an engineering feat; it's the earliest known example of foreshortening being used in architecture, a technique made famous in the golden age of Greece. If the Druid monument was built in 1840 B.C., however, it preceded the Greek use of foreshortening by some 1,000 years. Archaeologists believe it a logical deduction that the Greeks may have learned the trick from the ancient Britons. The have proof of British trade with Greece at this early period, more than 3,500 years ago.

These finds indicate that the Britons made better stone axes than were available on the Continent. And just the other day two British scientists visiting Stonehenge saw something new when a bright shaft of sunlight struck one of the pillars. On its surface, they found the carving of a Greek dagger of the type the Britons would have received in trade for the stone axes.

Making superior tools, engaging in trade, architecture, engineering, astronomy — these activities sound as if the inhabitants of Britain in those days were far from savages. Perhaps they were more civilized than modern man seems to be in many respects.

Parents Human, Too

(Hamilton Spectator)

Scores of experts and a great host of amateurs are pouring out advice to parents on the treatment of their children. Hardly a word is written or spoken about the reverse side of the case — how children should treat their parents.

All parents are irritating at times. They demand that some things be done and they forbid others, and their choice of the "do's" and the "don'ts" seems arbitrary and often unfair. And yet in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred their motive, really, is nothing but the furthering of the happiness and welfare of their children as they see it — which is just a fancy way of saying love.

Few young people realize the strength of parental love — an emotion which most parents disguise most of the time because they believe that an excessive show of it will interfere with their children's growth into mature, independent men and women.

But parents are human, too. Few of them would think of demanding that their children repay them for the thought and affection they [illegible] and yet, illogically perhaps, they are sometimes hurt if they are not repaid.

Few of them want to be fawned over. What they would like is proof, rather than show, of affection — thoughtfulness; consideration of their own moods (for adults have them, too); freedom from harrying; help given without having to be asked for; and, once in a while, that boon to which every human being, young or old, is entitled but which is so hard to achieve in family life — a bit of privacy.

And perhaps, despite all their irritating ways, they have earned these things.

The Poet's Corner

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

What's one tree more or less?
The woods are full of them.
But that elm was worth
A passing sigh.
Never ask for whom
The chopper comes!

The branches rolled and caught,
And fell again and down.
The trunk was eased over.
Now, passing by,
One would never know
The elm had been.

—Fred Swayze in Canadiana.

The Age Old Story

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

SING BABY TO SLEEP

Don't hustle your baby off to bed right after his final feeding. Your haste to get rid of him for the night may make him restless.

Some youngsters don't seem to mind this abrupt brushoff, but others cry and fret and let you know they think they've been mistreated. If your baby takes a half hour or longer to get to sleep, it's a pretty good sign that he should be quieted down before being whisked off to slumberland. This is especially true of excitable babies.

Soothing Music

Rock him a little in your arms, or sing softly to him if you like. You don't have to be good. He won't know whether you are carrying the tune or not, but he'll appreciate the affection it displays. If you have a phonograph, put on some soothing music — woodwinds or strings are best. It'll help you both to relax.

These gentle movements and soothing music give your youngster the same satisfaction that you get from rocking in a chair or tapping your foot. However, if he seems especially restless, give him a sponge bath.

There will be occasions, of course, when you just won't have time to give your baby the proper attention before bedtime. In this event, leave him where he may watch other members of the family, hear household sounds, or see the lights until he falls asleep.

Don't Tip-Toe Around

You don't have to go around on tip-toes, but don't make any unnecessary noises either. Your baby must become accustomed to ordinary sounds around the home.

One more thing. Try to put him to bed about the same time each evening. Then leave him alone.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

S. M. R.: What are the principal foods that should not be eaten in case of gallbladder trouble.

Answer: Fats — such as eggs, fried meat, cream, butter, etc. Condiments, and alcohol should be avoided. Use skimmed milk sparingly and salt in moderation. Starchy foods and sugars should be reduced if you are overweight; overeating should be avoided.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It's funny how months seem so much shorter and years seem so much longer when you pay for something on the instalment plan. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

In Rio de Janeiro, 76-year-old Signor Alberto Pagliano got two resounding slaps on his face from an elderly woman he encountered on the street. She was his wife — now 69 years old — from whom he had run away 34 years ago, and she recognized him when they met.—Stockholm Exchange.

A Miss Fanny Ennis, 69, of London has sued John Purser, 73, for breach of promise, charging she had been kept waiting since 1908 for him to keep his promise to marry her. We hope she collects. It should be a lesson to him that a man simply cannot keep a woman in suspense for 47 years. — N.Y. World Telegram.

The ability of the younger generation to pilot bicycles at an early age is astounding. We've seen tots who aren't as high as the wheels of their own bikes zipping along the streets in great style. Except that at times they have trouble keeping their balance and steering the bike. It's fine for a tiny tike to have a bike at an early age — but sometimes it's better to wait until they are better able to balance and steer before buying them the two-wheel chariot.—North Bay Nugget.

In this country we have done much to preserve life in the earlier years of mankind. There are literally hundreds of thousands of useful Canadian citizens today who in a previous generation would never have survived infancy. But we have neglected the other end of the chain and as a result we have lost a great many highly trained and experienced older people whose useful life might have been prolonged many years. Many of these people are highly trained, all are highly experienced. If healthy, they could make an enormous contribution to Canadian life both materially and culturally, and they would be infinitely happier themselves in doing so.—Financial Post.

We all know the type of man who grinds his cigarette out on your carpet. We have most of us suffered from the man who leaves a cigarette burning on our mantelpiece or favorite piece of furniture. We know the careless way he throws away a match and taps out his pipe on his heel. This is the man who is setting the bush fires which are now costing taxpayers untold thousands of dollars. The man who is careless at home or when visiting, is doubly careless when he is in the bush. To him, the whole world is his ashtray, and he couldn't care less what anyone thinks about him or his dirty habits.—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

"It is surprising how fast the day for the weekly newslettes comes around" says the publicity man for a Government institution Did he ever try working on a daily?—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

It is one of those things which sooner or later were bound to happen. In England when a dentist tugged at the tooth of a 10-year-old girl she, in pain, sank her teeth firmly into his finger. Flabbergasted at this pain in reverse, he slapped her. Doubtless he also was pained when a judge fined him $5 for assault.—Windsor Star.

Democracy works efficiently in ratio to the proportion of citizens who actively participate in its processes. A dull, complacent electorate makes for a complacent, inefficient administration. If politicians know they are constantly under the surveillance of the citizens, they will make fewer mistakes. Also, it is only through an enlightened, energetic and expressive public opinion that politicians know what people want them to do. Contrary to the ideas some may have, a democracy means elected representatives are the servants of the people.—Windsor Star.

There seems to be some affinity between Delhi and Ottawa so far as British envoys are concerned. Sir Archibald Nye who now represents the United Kingdom in Ottawa came to us after representing his country in India. Sir Alexander Clutterbuck went from us to India. And now Malcolm MacDonald who was with us several terms ago moves from the Malay Peninsula to India. And going back a bit Lord Willingdon came to us after being viceroy. Ottawa is full of people in every estate of life who will welcome this new posting of Mr. MacDonald's.—Ottawa Journal.

If ever there was a time for steady nerves and a cool appraisal of political realities, it is now. The world is apparently moving into a new chapter of negotiation, in which the struggle to contain Russia and to secure justice for the oppressed peoples of Eastern Europe will be pursued by different tactics. The West is strong. The West knows its own mind. There is every reason to be confident. But there is no reason to be carried away by soft hopes or by beguiling images of a world brought suddenly into a epoch of peace.—New York Herald Tribune.

ISLAND HARVEST

The pineapple industry of the Hawaiian islands is worth about $100,000,000 yearly in fruit and juice.

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