

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew
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"The strongest memory is weaker than
the weakest ink."

It Came Too Soon

Unable to agree on the danger of radiation in nuclear tests and not knowing how to deal with the perils on which they do agree, some of the scientists are turning their attention to the dangers that are certain to arise as soon as atomic power in volume is made available to industry.

Dr. W. B. Rankin, an expert attached to the United States' Food and Drug Administration, dwelt on this matter in a recent issue of "Antibiotic Medicine and Clinical Therapy", a scientific magazine. He said that so far no one has the slightest knowledge of how to get rid of atomic waste of which, he estimates, there will be 200 millions gallons in the United States alone by 1980, assuming that the "atoms for peace" program is carried forward as planned. A lot of this, perhaps all of it, in the initial stages will find its way into the farmlands and water supplies of the nation and into the oceans. One big problem will be how to obtain water from sources safeguarded against radioactive contamination. Some sort of regulations will have to be devised to protect water and food supplies, canning methods, chemical deposits and the like, but Dr. Rankin admits that so far little has been done to meet the situation. The only reassuring word he had to say is that "I have no doubt that the various problems will be worked out to the complete protection of the public." But that is of little comfort, since the problems are already here to some extent and are getting more serious by the hour.

The fact is that the atomic age has come too soon. Perhaps it would have been better if it had never been born.

Missed Opportunity

Nikita Khrushchev's radio and television appearance over an American network was, of course, a dramatic attempt to make political capital, especially in the so-called "uncommitted" countries. The fact that he consented to be interviewed in this manner by an American newsman constituted in itself a neat bit of propaganda, since it gave him a splendid opportunity to remind the world that the Soviet Union does not hesitate to justify its cause before the world.

The contents of the program were exactly what might have been expected: The Soviet Union wants peace; the Soviet Union wants nuclear tests to be banned; the Soviet Union wants large scale disarmament to be put into effect; the Soviet Union has no designs against any country; Mr. Khrushchev wants the "people" to decide important issues; within a generation or two "Socialism" (Mr. Khrushchev's word for Russian Communism) will be supreme—and a few additional bits of twaddle.

Never did a public figure make himself more vulnerable to attack. Never did President Eisenhower—or anyone else—have a better opportunity to state the free world's case in rebuttal to patent nonsense. But, apparently, this is not to be. After lengthy consultations with his advisers the President has decided not to ask the Moscow radio for "equal" time in which to reply to Mr. Khrushchev. One of these days some American official—perhaps Mr. John Foster Dulles or one of his subordinates—may look after that little chore—but not the President. He is said to feel that such an act would be not in accordance with protocol for a head of state to answer the arguments of one who is in a lesser position.

Well, as for "Presidential dignity", it must of course be upheld at all times. But it is difficult to see how it could be lowered by the President's defence of free world diplomacy. As for protocol, the demands of which are sacrosanct, it is true that Mr. Khrushchev is not the "head" of the Soviet Union in form; he is the boss of the

Soviet people in a way which goes far beyond the powers of President Eisenhower in the United States.

Once again, it seems, the Soviet Union is to be handed an advantage in propaganda-spreading. As Representative Reuss of Wisconsin pointed out "if all we do is nothing, we give the Russians an incalculable advantage."

Commonwealth Duty

The process of allowing the colonies to form their own governments and go their free way has proceeded so far that there is talk of the Colonial Office some day closing its doors, as did the old and equally powerful India Office. To the extent that the word "colonial" implied authority over people who craved self-government, says the Globe and Mail, this development will be welcomed. But there is another side to the coin.

A colonial power has duties and expenses as well as the benefit from natural resources such as the rubber in Malaya, soon to be free. One example is the £20,000,000 provided annually for the Colonial Development Fund from United Kingdom revenues. This valuable assistance can hardly be continued when a colony becomes free and in fact it would be damaging to the pride of a new nation to seek help from such a fund.

What is afoot, with the emergence of new nations within the Commonwealth, is a plan for a Commonwealth Development Fund to help states such as Ghana, recently the Gold Coast colony, to maintain economic self-sufficiency. This fund naturally would interest all Commonwealth members anxious to forward the causes of the free world. And through it nations other than the United Kingdom would have opportunity to make their contribution to the progress of Commonwealth comrades.

The participation of Canada, the senior overseas Commonwealth member, would be in accord with policies supported by all parties in our recent parliaments. With the Colonial Office and the Colonial Development Fund no longer an influence in so many parts of the world it behooves the older, wealthier Commonwealth countries to see that the damage which would be caused by leaving a vacuum is avoided.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Be sure and vote!
Now's the day and now's the hour: See the front of battle our.

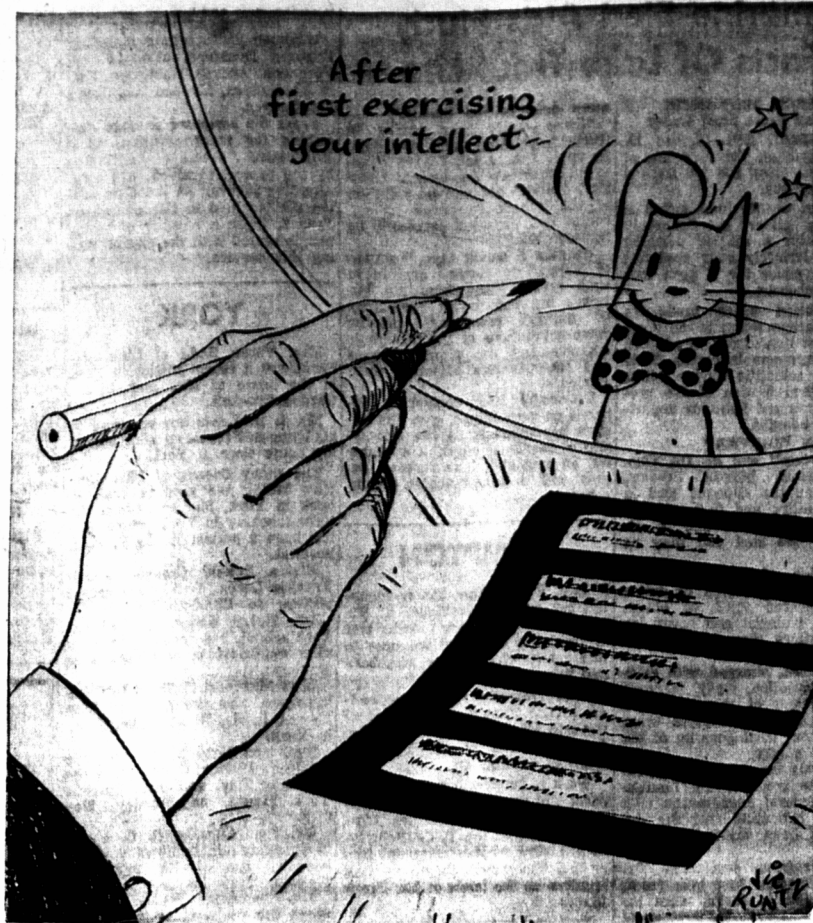
An American educator says that colleges "graduate all sorts of students." Certainly, because all sorts go in and they have to come out some time.

It is to be hoped that M. Maurice Bourges-Maunoury will be successful in his efforts to form a government for France. His name, however, is not easy for non-French tongues to handle. The last Premier was fortunate in that almost anyone could say his name without stumbling over syllables.

Dr. Kwama Nkrumah, the Prime Minister of the newly established state of Ghana, recently said that his country owes a lot to Christian missionaries who will continue to be welcomed. Incidentally, most of the Ghana Cabinet are graduates of mission schools.

This is a timely season in which to be reminded that good manners are just as essential out of doors as they are in the home. Those who persist in spoiling woodlots, stream banks and public areas should be fined; just as the city dweller would have the farmer fined who camped on his front lawn or cut down a shade tree for firewood.

Some people believe that fluoridation is a bad word. Others, comments the Toronto Telegram, may think there is something worse. For instance — 99 per cent of children reaching Grade VIII having tooth decay. That is the report a combined meeting of the Canadian and Ontario Public Health Associations received from Dr. H. K. Brown, dental consultant to the Dominion Department of Health and Welfare. The dental division of the department, he said, had examined 60,000 children and had come to that conclusion—99 per cent of children in Grade VIII have bad teeth.



Satellite Watchers' Job

By Allan L. Blakeslee
Associated Press, Cambridge, Mass.

Scientists are getting set to fling a tiny man-made moon into space. Then comes a consuming and possibly embarrassing question—"where did it go?"

Finding the little moon after its launch could be enormously difficult. Only the size of a bushel basket, it will whiz around the earth at five miles a second at heights of 200 to 1,500 miles.

But scientists expect to find and track the shining moon, by three different systems—human, telescopic, and radio. Much depends on some dedicated volunteers standing watch on the skies.

The thrill of being the first human to see the satellite could fall to a housewife, truck driver, schoolboy, lawyer, doctor, baker, or a tailor.

CHAIN OBSERVERS
They make up the amateur teams of Operation Moonwatch, the human chain of observers determined to spot the wheeling ball.

There will be volunteer teams in the United States, Japan, South America, South Africa, Guam, Yap, Wake Island, Hawaii and elsewhere. Each team has 30 to 60 members and has a particular part of the sky to watch.

The satellite moves too fast for anyone to see it with naked eye or even binoculars, unless he knows where to look. In 10 minutes, it will cross the United States, in 100 it will circle the world on a round-trip.

GUARD OWN MERIDIAN
In their own towns, each team will guard its own meridian, the imaginary north-south line overhead across the sky. At each location, a tall pole is set up. Aop the pole is a wooden or metal mast, set precisely upon the meridian line at that location on earth.

"Aground, the observers sit in

Charming Cobras For A Living

Taya Zinkin Bombay, in the Manchester Guardian and the Ottawa Journal

In the West there is an anthropomorphic revulsion for snakes which finds its explanation in the Bible; in India the snake is a member of the Hindu Pantheon, revered for his lethal bite, admired for the slithering grace of his deportment and worshipped for his powers, and there is a very real snake-man relationship which can still be seen even the cities.

When I visited the city of Wai, in the Deccan plateau, by the sacred river Krishna, I met a snake priest, complete with his snake. A little scruffy man carrying a large kerosene tin was passing us, with a toothless grin, when my guide called him and introduced "Meet Sri Panse, our snake priest, he makes part of his living by catching cobras." The rest of his living, Sri Panse said, comes from land.

He was very modest as he explained his powers over snakes. Many years ago he was initiated by a famous guru: for a whole year he had to learn the sacred mantras (gnomic — like incantations) and he has to observe to this day a series of ritual taboos.

MONTHLY EARNINGS
The initiation cost him £37 10s in food and clothing for his guru. It was well worth it, because besides the respect he derives from his power over snakes Sri Panse earns a steady 30s a month from his art. Whenever a cobra is sighted they all try to remove it, not only in the city of Wai but in the neighboring villages. He comes along with his old kerosene tin, the snake crawls by himself into the tin, and Sri Panse gets a fee for his services. This is a big one. Besides, his fee he gets paid at the rate of 1s 6d per foot of life cobra by the Haffkine Institute where antidotes are manu-

factured out of the live venom.

Sri Panse has his own way of catching snakes. The moment he sees one he recites his sacred mantras and the slippery creature, mesmerized, has to bid his will. It is as simple as saying Jack Robinson in Sanskrit. "Do you want to see my last catch," grinned Sri Panse proudly.

"It is a superb five-footer King Cobra," and before I could say "yes" he had opened the lid of his tin. A slippery silver monster uncoiled on the sizzling pavement, hissing like a distant railway engine.

"Do not fear," said his amster, "So long as I am here he cannot bite" and he began to tease the cobra with a stick to puff its head before the camera like a bad boy.

LOOKED LIKE PARATROOPER
As the head began to swell and the snake looked like a paratrooper ready to jump, Sri Panse was explaining that he cures snake bites — always without taking money — by reciting other mantras and by sprinkling blessed water on the victim. "I can cure people from 8 to 12, and from 2 to 6, round the clock, but not 11 am to 12 noon in the required state of purity, and although I can help my powers are much reduced."

He had forgotten his captive and was strolling along the river embankment; yet the snake showed no sign of slipping away. "He cannot escape me," said Sri Panse, quite casually. "You see, the moment I set my eye on him we entered into a covenant, and he has become my servant."

"But it does not always work. When people call me to remove a snake, the snake sometimes refuses to come out of its hiding. Unless I can see it I cannot make the pact. In such cases, there is no catch."

RITUAL MILK
Ritual snake catching is common in India. Friends of mine have told me very seriously that if one feels neither fear nor revulsion at the sight of a snake one is immune from its fangs; others have told me that there are persons who enter into covenants with snakes, and that the snake signs the deed by hitting the ground at their feet with its head; this means that no matter what happens he will never bite such a person.

Many an Indian housewife feeds her garden cobra with ritual milk every day and people still talk of the Stationmaster of Guntakul.

The Stationmaster of Guntakul was a very pious and good man who had the power to cure snake bites by telegram. The moment somebody was bitten by a snake he would cable to "Stationmaster Guntakul", and the Stationmaster, forgetting green flag, red flag, or whistle, would at once say a few mantras for the recovery of the victim.

He was very modest and honest and never made money from his gift. His fame reached the four corners of India, yet nobody outside Guntakul knew his name; this

THE BRIGHTON VILLA
Sir,—With the Hillson property on Ambrose Street changing hands last week, the following maybe of interest to our people. During the 1860's the whole City block bounded by Ambrose Street, Greensfields Avenue, Brighton Avenue and Villa Avenue was purchased by the late George Davies, Esq. In the centre Mr. Davies had Brighton Villa erected, one of the largest and most beautiful houses in the city. During the Victorian years many social functions took place within its walls. Horse drawn carriages driving up the Avenue made a beautiful picture. The Victorian way of life was enjoyed to the utmost.
I am, Sir, etc.
KENNETH BRUCE STEWART
Bedoune, June 7th

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of correspondents of question of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

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Tranquilizers: How They Work

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

Since the introduction of the various tranquilizing drugs, doctors have found innumerable uses for them.

No longer are they used solely to relieve tension states or anxiety neurosis. Although this still remains their prime purpose, they now are employed to treat a variety of disorders.

Let's look at just one of these tranquilizers, meprobamate, or Milltown, as it is more popularly known.

CLINICAL STUDIES
As with similar drugs, countless clinical studies of Milltown have been made and reactions of hundreds of patients have been checked thoroughly.

Acting in its tranquilizing capacity, it calms the nervous patient suffering from anxiety, restlessness, hyperemotionalism and irritability. It relaxes the muscular tensions associated with these symptoms.

INDUCES SLEEP
It is effective in inducing sleep, although it is not a hypnotic in the usual sense. Its value in treating insomnia appears to be that it removes the physical and emotional tensions that obstruct the onset of natural sleep. Tension headaches are also relieved of this drug, apparently because it alleviates the underlying anxiety and relaxes muscle tensions.

It is valuable, too, in treating premenstrual tension and for a wide variety of conditions involving muscle spasm. It has helped cerebralpals victims and is reported of "considerable value" in treating petit mal.

It has value, also, as an adjunct to electroshock therapy. When given the drug prior to electroshock, patients were less apprehensive and experienced less confusion after the shock treatment.

SOBERING-UP PHASE
Milltown helps to control withdrawal symptoms during the sobering-up phase of alcoholism. It is also used to help the alcoholic stay off liquor by cutting down his symptoms of anxiety, tension and insomnia. It often makes him more willing to cooperate with the doctors trying to help him break the booze habit.

It is well to remember, however, the medicines should not be taken without first consulting your doctor for advice.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
Mrs. L. J.: My grandson was born with a reeched lower jaw bone. Can this be corrected?
Answer: Usually, a child with a reeched lower jaw bone can have an operation performed with success to correct this deformity when he is 4 to 6 years old.

The Age Old Story

The Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

The Bookmobile
Unesco Bulletin

A pilot public library in Colombia started just over two years ago by UNESCO and the Colombia government carries out a carefully-timed schedule of visits to factories, schools and villages — a total of forty-five stops a week.

When the bookmobile pulled up outside a shirt factory, at the curb of a busy road, they came in a steadily increasing stream — women in their working overalls, on their way to lunch in the canteen, grimy mechanics from a garage on the other side of the street, housewives with their shopping. In orderly fashion they climbed up near the driver's seat, turned in the shelves, and browsed through the van's other door with the week's reading into their arm.

At a machine shop the bookmobile drove right in between the machines and stopped in front of the foreman's table. A big, burly man, the foreman, was the first to climb aboard. One by one his men dropped their tools, wiped the grease off their hands and followed suit, belligerently lifting their old books by a corner to avoid soiling them.

One of them had a heavy volume under his arm: A book on home medicine. "I have eleven children," he said, "and there's always something wrong with one or other of them. I don't know what I'd do without this book. Besides it has chapters on adolescence and the facts of life, and my daughters are growing to the age where they need guidance on such matters. I've had the book out for six months and I renew it each week. I've also got the Holy Bible but I'm trying to save up to buy my own copies so that I can return these to the library and borrow different books."

Two of the most widely read books are the Bible and Dale Carnegie's "How to Win Friends."

is why he could never be transferred from Guntakul where he served for 30 long years, while more and more telegrams kept pouring in.

In the railways they still talk of him and of the many lives he has saved; there are Indians who believe in the Stationmaster's powers as fervently as scientists believe in the antidotes of the Haffkine Institute.

MAXIMS

Real knowledge, like everything else of the highest value is not to be obtained easily. It must be worked for, studied for, thought for and, more than all, it must be prayed for.

MORE STEEL

India's steel production in 1956 reached 1,340,000 tons, against 1,230,000 tons in 1955.

NOTES BY THE WAY

There are only two speeds on the highway today—the lawful and the awful.—Brantford Expositor

Many a bride has turned an old rake into a lawn mower.—Vancouver Province

A bachelor might be defined as a man with no ties except those that need cleaning.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

Within the past few days we have been deluged with cut off inches to spare, by cars which approached the stop sign as we began crossing the road. The calm assumption on the part of this kind of driver seems to be that pedestrians have no right to be on the road and if they want to get knocked down he is the boy to do it.—Kingston Whig Standard

A woman who makes a match for her daughter usually intends to referee it as well.—Guelph Mercury

Have you enjoyed that breath of spring, coming from the yard of a neighbor burning rubbish?—St. Catharines Standard

Some people marry in an inside paragraph and repent in a front page column.—Niagara Falls Review

Regina Post thinks P.E.I. "in a class by itself for potatoes, lobsters and Gaelic singing." But who cares about that stuff, when right across the river here in good old Kébec we have the world's champion shanty-baked beamakers and "Alouette!"—Ottawa Citizen

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The Poets Corner

SEA FARM
These upturned stones are smooth and round;
The sea was here once, long ago.
Now, turning with remembering sound,
It fingers in among the reeds
And follows where the heron feeds
Then rests, its borders won.

The meadowlark and arcing gull
When on the racing wind
That sings of space, and breathing full
Tells secrets of exotic fields,
Bears honeyed scents of richest yield,
And whispers of strange springs.

The rolling blade turns shells, and kneads,
A fertile flying spray of brown
That richly covers sleeping seeds.
Who breaks this earth is held in fee
Of land, yet speaks the tongue of sea,
And kinship claims with both.

—Eileen McClay
In the Christian Science Monitor.

OUR YESTERDAYS
From the Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(June 10, 1932)
Hon. Murray MacLaren, Minister of Pensions and National Health, together with his family, is visiting the province for a few days. Mr. MacLaren's father, Dr. Lawrence MacLaren, was born at Hermitage, P.E.I. and after completing his education moved to St. John, N.B. Hon. Mr. MacLaren made several official visits while in the City.

Arriving in Charlottetown yesterday, pilot Harold Crowley and Edward O'Toole, of Boston, reported an unsuccessful search for the missing air pilot Arthur Sullivan of the Newfoundland Airways, and Dr. Kruehert, Grenfell Mission Dentist who left Newfoundland Thursday on a short trip and have not since been heard from.

TEN YEARS AGO
(June 10, 1947)
The christening ceremony for the new Prince Edward Island car ferry "Abegweit" will be held at Sorel, Quebec, on June 28th. It was announced yesterday. After the christening the Abegweit will proceed to Quebec for an inspection in drydock, and if the hull is found satisfactory, the ferry will proceed to Prince Edward Island.

A public meeting in the interest of improvement in education was held in the Tye Valley hall last evening attended by a large number from Tye Valley and the surrounding districts. Mr. L. W. Shaw, Director of education, spoke on "Teaching Recruitment and the Curriculum", emphasizing the teacher shortage prevailing throughout Canada and the methods of dealing with this problem.

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