The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

On Eating Crow

When Dr. Samuel Johnson was asked by a lady why, in his Dictionary, he had defined "pastern" as the "knee" of a horse, he replied bluntly: "Ignorance, madam, pure ignorance." The great lexicograper could have entered a less damning plea—of carelessness, of haste in preparing his work for the printer, of faulty proof-reading, or something of that sort—but he didn't. He had blundered, and there was nothing for him to do but eat crow. He chose to eat the whole bird—feathers, bones and all; and that ended all controversy.

His example is a good one for lesser scribes to follow when they "pull a boner", such as we did in these columns yesterday in referring to "Inverness, England." Didn't we know that Inverness is in Scotland, the county town of Inverness-shire? Didn't we know, from its very name, that it lies on the Ness? That it is famous for the beauty of its environment and fine buildings, and is held as the capital of the Highlands?

Didn't we know that in ancient times it was one of the chief strongholds of the Picts and was visited by St. Columba with the intention of converting the Pictish king Brude to Christianity? That its castle was built on the site of the one in which Macbeth murdered Duncan? That since the time of William the Lion in the 13th century it has been a Royal Burgh; that James I held a parliament of the northern chieftains there, and that the house still stands there in which the ill-fated Mary Queen of Scots resided?

Such things are known to every schoolboy, or used to be. They are as much a part of Scotland's glorious history as the annals of Edinburgh itself. Why, then, did we put Inverness in England to the shame of these columns and the astonishment of our intelligent readers? And without even a bracketed question mark to indicate that we had our doubts!

Why? We keep asking ourselves; but we are admonished by the shade of Dr. Johnson that in such predicaments there is only one convincing answer. "Ignorance, madam." It lies in wait for us all.

Meeting In Tokyo

Trade with Japan runs strongly in Canada's favor, and this fact will doubtess be impressed upon the Canadian delegation, headed by Justice Minister Donald Fleming and Fisheries Minister J. Angus MacLean, which will meet with Japanese cabinet ministers in Tokyo this week. At Ottawa it is stated that the talks on Friday and Saturday will be "fairly general" with no definite agreements expected to emerge. But undoubtedly trade and fishery questions will come in for close scrutiny.

From Tokyo it is reported that Japan is ready to bring up revision of the U.S.-Japan-Canada fisheries treaty for the North Pacific. Under the present treaty, Japan has abstained since 1953 from fishing for salmon, halibut or herring off the West Coast of this continent. This, however, is contingent on Canadian and U.S. fishermen fully exploiting these three species. Ottawa reports are to the effect that none of the three countries is prepared to start discussing details of the treaty.

The main subject of the talks, at any rate, promises to be Japan's desire for greater exports to Canada. In 1961 Canadian exports to Japan were $231,574,352 and imports $116,607,360. The latest DBS figures allowing comparison cover the first six months of 1962 when exports to Japan were $104,589,680 and imports $58,535,035.

Mr. Fleming has continued to represent Canada at international economic meetings since his switch from the finance ministry last fall. Presumably this is one reason why he is accompanying Mr. MacLean on the present occasion. But he is known to be definitely committed to restraint on Japanese sales in Canada, and that may be another.

Canada's sales to Japan consist mostly of foodstuffs and raw materials; Japan's exports to Canada, on the other hand, consist mainly of fully manufactured goods which compete with Canadian manufacturers' products. It's the old story. A case of protecting "home industries" at all costs.

The Japanese have been patient under restrictive trade provocations, but there are signs that their patience is coming to an end. Mr. Shunichi Azuma, executive director of the Japanese Trade Centre in Canada, said recently that his countrymen did not believe that voluntary controls they now impose on exports to Canada are good from the viewpoint of a free enterprise system. At this, the first meeting of the Japan-Canada economic committee, much more is likely to be heard to the same effect.

Gets Short Shrift

Assurance has been given by Veterans Affairs Minister Churchill that no steps will be taken at this time to "change in any way the present care and treatment of our veterans." The Glassco Commission has recommended that Ottawa withdraw from the field of hospital care for veterans and leave it to the public hospitals. The switch would be gradual, the Government retaining financial responsibility for treatment and chronic care.

In his statement Mr. Churchill said the care and treatment of Canada's veterans was a major obligation of this country, and there would be no change in the present system "unless it is clearly and unmistakably for their benefit." Prime Minister Diefenbaker has also singled out this proposal as one which was "rather more sweeping than I think the Government would give acceptance to."

Certainly Canada would not stand for any downgrading of veterans' rights to the best hospital care and treatment they require. We do not think the Commission had this in mind in advocating that patients be transferred progressively to public hospitals under appropriate financial arrangements, and that DVA hospitals be converted to community institutions in which disabled veterans would have preferential admission rights. However, the Government sees a danger in these proposals that would affect our veterans' status quo, or could be construed as affecting it.

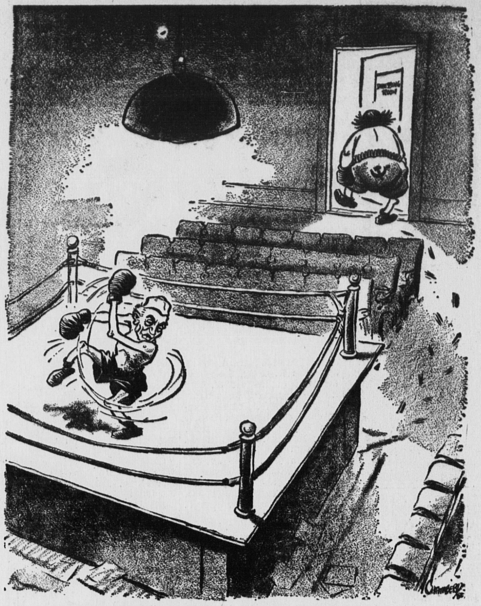
It has forestalled Opposition criticism by indicating its intention of bypassing this part of the Commission's report, regardless of what savings might be effected. A good thing, too, if there was any danger of this issue getting involved in a political dogfight.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Congratulations to Captain Kean, his fellow officers and crew of the "Abegweit" on their successful efforts in rescuing a Summerside youth in the stormy Northumberland Straits yesterday morning. It was a fine achievement in navigation, calling for judgment and experience in the best seafaring tradition.

* * *

The New York City area uses about 800,000 tons of newsprint a year—nearly 11 per cent of the total United States consumption. And, according to the president of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, New York's current newspaper strike is costing Canada some $1,500,000 a week in newsprint exports. During the month the strike has lasted, these lost exports amounted to $6,500,000. It has meant a loss of between $500,000 and $600,000 in wages to pulp and paper workers alone, not counting allied industries.



"KEEP SWINGING - - - HE'LL BE BACK!"

CANADA'S PROSPERITY

Too Many Gloomsters And Pollsters

The Printed Word, Toronto

Are Canadians always full of gloom?

A public opinion poll reports that Canadians are less likely to say grace before meals than are people in the United States. The Canadian gloomsters would concur with the pollsters because they might say that the people in the United States have more to be thankful for. Actually the reason Canadians remain Canadians is that they would sooner be Canadians than residents of the United States or, as Gilbert and Sullivan want to be Roosians of Proosians or belong to other nations.

Perhaps the reason that Canadians sometimes act as if they are sure the world is coming to an end is that in Canada there are so many opposition parties in Parliament. It is presumably the duty of the official opposition party to view with alarm everything that the government of the day proposes, and with a couple of other unofficial opposition groups in the House of Commons the opportunities for being down in the mouth are greater.

It is possible also that some members of the foreign service of the Canadian government are not averse to telling people of other lands that conditions are bad in Canada.

PROSPERITY SIGNS

The fact is that Canada is prosperous. Most retailers who kept their dors pen (some of them appear to wish to lock had the biggest Christmas season in their history. This would not have been possible if the customers had not had more money than they had ever had before. The retailers' biggest problem last Christmas seems to have been replenishment of exhausted stock.

The automobile industry has been reporting new high figures for distribution and sales. The Canadian steel industry achieved new records in production and sales. The records were in percentage better than those of the United States steel industry. Companies are paying better dividends, at least there are more increases in dividends than there are decreases.

In a population of eighteen million people there are bound to be people in distress, some through their own fault and many through no fault of their own. But the sweeping generalization of the gloomsters that "things are bad" is a morbid comment and should not be heeded. This does not mean that the usual cheque should be withheld from the reverend gentleman who runs a mission to feed people, mostly men, who are mentally beyond helping themselves, or even thinking about it.

There are difficulties in living in Canada, particularly in the larger communities. No one knows how those cars produced in Oshawa, Oakville and Windsor are ever going to find parking space, let alone garages. In spite of approaching bankruptcy because of road building, it takes longer to get to the job today than it took ten years ago. That is a cause for worry, but hardly justification for predicting that things will get worse for people over the years. There are days when newspaper readers wonder if there is no cheerful news to put on page one. There are preachers of the Gospel who apparently do not think that believers should be cheerful. There are critics who do not remember, as everyone should, that a nation is not ruined in spite of its mistakes.

People are better off. People continue to be better off because most people are willing and able to work, and most people have jobs.

Those Cuban Commitments

By Carman Cumming
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The great Cuban crisis is easing its way into history with no formal U.S. commitment not to invade Cuba.

Two months ago, just after the Kennedy-Khrushchev, agreement that broke the crisis, British Labor member Harold Wilson observed publicly that it would be a mistake to consider the settlement a Soviet climbdown.

Wilson, Labor's chief foreign affairs spokesman, said the Russians had "secured one of the things they were after—guarantee of the territorial integrity of a Communist state on the borders of America."

It now is apparent that the Russians have achieved nothing of the kind.

FAIR SWAP

Wilson, along with many other people on both sides of the Iron Curtain, understood that the essence of the Kennedy-Khrushchev pact was that Soviet missiles would be removed from Cuba in exchange for a U.S. pledge not to invade the island.

But since then both sides apparently have chosen to ignore fine print in the statements of the other side.

Premier Khrushchev, in his Oct. 28 message to Kennedy, said the missiles had been stationed in Cuba to protect it from attack and could now be removed since "I regard with respect and trust your statement put forward in your message (the previous day) that no attack will be made on Cuba, that no invasion will take place, not only by the U.S. but also by other countries of the Western hemisphere, as your message pointed out."

Actually, Khrushchev had read a lot into the president's message that wasn't there.

Kennedy did not guarantee that other nations of the hemisphere would not invade Cuba. He said only that he was "confident" they would go along with the arrangement.

And the U.S. leader attached two key conditions to the no-invasion promise: that the Soviet weapons would be removed "under appropriate United Nations observation and supervision," and that Russia should "undertake, with suitable safeguards, to halt the further introduction of such weapons into Cuba."

With Premier Castro blocking any international inspection on Cuban soil, the U.S. feels that it is not bound by the no-invasion pledge.

SEES RED VICTORY

Khrushchev feels differently. In a New Year's message to Castro he was still insisting that the Communist camp had achieved a moral and political victory since the U.S. had committed itself and its hemispheric allies not to invade Cuba.

Two days earlier Kennedy had sounded a contrasting note in welcoming the Bay of Pigs invasion prisoners at Miami following their release from Cuba. In an emotional speech while accepting the brigade colors, Kennedy said: "I can assure you that this flag will be returned to this brigade in a free Havana.

And this week, following the Soviet-U.S. decision to withdraw the Cuban issue from the UN Security Council, Washington officials have been quoted as saying that the U.S. stands committeo to Kennedy's promise to try to halt Cuban subversion and to his proposition that "the Cuban people shall some day be truly free."

The outlook is for continued U.S. attempts to isolate the country. But clearly Washington does not feel bound to keep hands off Cuba in any situation where an invasion is deemed necessary.

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.

A TRIBUTE

Sir,—With the passing of Edmund Toombs Charlottetown has lost one of its finest citizens. He was well known and highly respected by all who knew him as a member of the Post Office staff. For to meet him was to encounter a gentleman; to talk with him was to find kindness and humour; to know him was to admire a devout and honest Christian. His devoted service to the community was recognized by all who appreciated good citizenship, and especially those who were young during his active years will remember him with affection and respect.

I am, Sir., etc.,

F.M.

First Book On N.S. Birds

Nova Scotia Newsletter

The first comprehensive work on Nova Scotia birds, representing the life's work of internationally - known ornithologist Robie W. Tufts, Wolfville, has recently been published through the Nova Scotia Museum.

"The Birds of Nova Scotia", a volume of more than 480 pages, contains a wealth of information gathered over many years of intensive study and observation.

Mr. Tufts, a research associate of the museum, began keeping his records as a boy before the turn of the century. As a child, he was drawn to the outdoors. As he grew older, he entered the world of finance, but the outdoors eventually won out and he served for 28 years as Chief Federal Migratory Bird Officer for the Maritimes.

He always kept records, and has been writing about outdoor subjects most of his life. "The Birds of Nova Scotia" is the inevitable result. With his own records, the co-orperation of other students of birds, including his own pupils in the subject, and with full access to the records of Harry Piers, longtime Curator of the Provincial Museum, Mr. Tufts has produced a work which will be the standard around which later contributions will arrange themselves.

The beautiful hard-cover volume, printed in Halifax, includes color plates of beautiful bird paintings by Roger Tory Peterson and John Crosby. Informative line-drawings are by John H. Dick. Dust jacket bears a reproduction of gulls on the seacoast, befitting to a book on the birds of the ocean-bordered province.

The book records 349 birds, including a short list of birds reportedly seen in Nova Scotia but not authenticated by specimens, the majority of which are illustrated in color.

Acids Seen Cause Of Canker Sores

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

CITRIC and acetic acids may cause canker sores and other mouth lesions. We have seen several individuals over the years who drank large amounts of fruit juices. They developed sores in the mouth and in time discovered accidentally that the lesions could be provented by eliminating fruit containing these acids.

Tests have demonstrated that allergy is responsible. Americans also are great pill users and the use of drugs often leads to painful ulcers, redness, and bleeding of the mouth. Barbiturates, antibiotics, iodine, sufonamides, salicylates (aspirin), mercury, and bismuth head the list. Some of these products escape detection because they are hidden in simple remedies such as cough sirups or pain killers.

In many instances the sores reappear in the same spot whenever the causative drug is taken. The chemicals are absorbed by the stomach and, for some unknown reason, select the mouth to do their dirty work. This is mentioned because the lesions do not come from local contact with the drug in the mouth.

The oral cavity was built to take abuse. It is lined with a resistant membrane that is covered constantly with large amounts of mucus and saliva. Sores form when these areas are sensitized through allergic, metabolic, or emotional elements.

A poorly fitting denture is an example of injury but in many instances the irritation is aided and abetted by a sensitivity to acrylic materials used in the dentures. Other allergic offenders include toothpaste, mouth washes, denture cleansers, tobacco, medicated lozenges, flavoring in candy or chewing gum, and certain drugs.

The irritation may be confined to the lips or to the corners of the mouth when an allergy exists to certain dyes in lipstick. Redness, painful ulcers, and swelling (hives) on the inside of the mouth also stem from a variety of foods. Dust and serums cause these lesions occasionally.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

CHILDHOOD CONVULSIONS

Mrs. D.A. writes: I had just one attack of epilepsy as a child and am now 27. Do you think I will ever have another? I do worry because I drive a car.

REPLY

I doubt if this question can be answered. The long duration of freedom from attacks is in your favor. Possibly the seizure you had as a child was due to an elevated temperature rather than to epilepsy. You might consider having a brain wave test.

INTESTINAL FLU

J.A.B. writes: What can you tell me about viral gastroenteritis?

REPLY

This intestinal infection is caused by a virus and resembles food poisoning. Many of the victims have fever, generalized aching, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and griping pain. Spontaneous recovery is the rule.

TAINTED FOOD

P.D. writes: Could two persons who ate the same contaminated food react differently?

REPLY

Yes, because other factors play a role in the severity of food poisoning. These include the amount eaten and whether vomiting occurred immediately thereafter.

APPENDICITIS AND PREGNANCY

S.A.S. writes: Can a woman become pregnant after having an operation for ruptured appendix?

REPLY

Yes, because the reproductive organs are rarely involved in perforation of the appendix.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Exercise is the antidote to food.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
January 10, 1938

Harris Pye, Summerside, was presented with a Testimonial from the Royal Canadian Humane Association, last Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Miller, Lot 16, in recognition of his gallant rescue of two persons from drowning in Grand River last September. Rev. Mr. Christie in making the presentation mentioned the fact that it was not the first time that Mr. Pye had risked his life to save others.

Miss Estelle Bowness, was the speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Summerside Chapter of the IODE and gave an interesting address, dealing with the British administration in India.

TEN YEARS AGO
January 10, 1953

Dr. Walter Maynard Shaw has accepted a postion as specialist in Internal Medicine with the Oshawa Clinic at Oshawa, Ont. During the past year Dr. Shaw secured his Master of Science degree from McGill University for a year spent in experimental medicine under the provisions of a McGill Research Fellowship.

Cnst. David Guttredge, of the Montague Detachment of the RCMP, left yesterday for Souris, where he has taken charge of the Souris Detachment while Cpl. Strong is absent in England with the coronation contingent.

LESS POLIO

The United States had about 900 reported cases of poliomylitis in 1962—about one third less than in 1961.

NOTES BY THE WAY

British telephone engineers are boasting about a device they have that enables 200 people to talk at the same time on one telephone line. Over here, we are getting rid of the party line. — Peterborough Examiner.

The rheumatic elderly lady, interviewing a prospective maid: "I hope you won't mind if you have to help me upstairs occasionally." "I understand, Ma'am," the maid replied. "I take a nip now and again myself." — Financial Post.

Anybody who can afford to drive a car can afford seat belts. Considering the loss of life and serious injury that seat belts can prevent on our streets and highways, the governments should not hesitate to require them on all cars. — Toronto Star.

Two politicians chatting: "What do you consider the object of legislation?" "The greatest good for the greatest number." "What do you consider the greatest number?" "Number one." — Montreal Star

Three of the largest British labor unions decided to call a strike against the Ford Motor Company, just to show who's boss. Recently the English labor leaders found out, and promptly uncalled the strike. What changed their minds was neither the managers of the company nor the Ministry of Labor. It was a massive anti-strike meeting of the workers' wives chanting "we need money for Christmas." The wives spoke on Tuesday evening and by Wednesday morning there were no men around to man the picket lines. — Wall Street Journal.

Bargain In Wolfe

Ottawa Journal

Public Archives people in their line of work could not wish for a better bargain than the copies of Wolfe letters they have been able to buy for Canada in London for $225. Dr. Kaye Lamb the Dominion Archivist who had put a strict limit on what might be paid, did not really think he would get them for the price of a television set.

The original letters have vanished but these copies cast additional light on the puzzling personality of the victor at Quebec. Writing to a subordinate officer just before he sailed to Canada in 1759 Gen. Wolfe, it is revealed through these documents, assured him that every man would have his deserved "proportion" of the applause won by the expedition.

He had, then, a sense of public relations and an understanding of what praise meant to men less dedicated and more fond of public display than himself.

Historical research has tended to show him as a tough professional soldier who knew what he was doing at Quebec instead of the old picture of a sickly, gangling officer who was helped up the Heights to a lucky victory 200 years ago, mumbling Grey's Elegy on the way.

As the professional competence of Wolfe gained new emphasis — and there is no argument about the skill he displayed on the field where he met his death — the sympathy for a poetic warrior tended to fade. Now, through material collected by the Canadian Archives, the true picture of the man is being rounded out.

The letters will prove, we of man who would have enjoyed trust, that Wolfe was the kind this long-lost evidence of his show in England in an old shopping bag. To show Wolfe was modest instead of morose is worth $225, especially at Christgood nature being carried to a mas-time.

A Noisy Delinquent

National Geographic Society

Even bird watchers seldom put crows, which flock so raucously at winter roosts, on their lists of favorite feathered friends.

These eggheads of the bird world are living proof that a combination of brains and crime can be made to pay. Moreover, they seem to know to a fraction the range of a farmer's gun.

Crows are born kleptomaniacs. No known defences keep them from trespassing into grain fields and gardens. Crows steal the eggs of more beloved birds with lesser I.Q.'s. They have been called by an Audubon official, the "Pigeon Birth Control League" of the U.S. Capital.

Henry Ward Beecher, the 19th-century American clergyman, said that if people wore feathers and wings, very few of them would be clever enough to be crows.

ALL-AMERICAN BIRD

Every hand has been raised against the crow, yet it thrives across the North American continent. Possibly ten thousand people recognize the crow instantly, for one who has even seen a bald eagle, the national emblem. The crow, unlike the eagle, is not in the slightest danger of extinction.

A quarter of the world's 400 varieties of crows and jays flourish in the Western Hemisphere, but no one knows how this Old World family got here. The earliest settlers found that crows had preceded them and were known by special names to all Indian tribes.

Widest ranging is the common Eastern crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhychos), a powerfully built bird about 19 inches long with jet-black plumage and a stout beak. The fish crow is slightly smaller. Most varieties look like the common crow and share its amazing ability to adjust to changes in food, foliage, enemies, and the elements.

Crow rookeries expand to enormous size in winter. The birds call less attention to themselves in nesting season, usually March, April, or May. A young crow is all appetite; it will eat anything. No less than 656 different items have been identified in the diet of crows.

Crows serve as scavengers, and they help control insect pests. But it is the evil they do that lives after them. Crows have been observed working in pairs to pillage robin nests. One crow taunts the parent robins into pursuing him while the other swoops down quietly on the fledglings. Then the partners meet in a rendezvous tree to share the take.

SMARTER THAN DOGS

Pet crows seem to learn faster than dogs. They can imitate human sounds and devise games. There is hardly a crow alive that can resist collecting and hiding trinkets.

When crows take up with or against people, as the case may be, their antics cannot be ignored. "Blackie," a pet crow in Little Ferry, New Jersey, meddled in people's activities so persistently that he earned this newspaper epitaph: "Few humans would take from each other the mockery, invective, and abuse Blackie has aimed at school teachers, motorists, choir singers, and innocent bystanders."

Another crow appeared at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., and joined the traffic policemen. For months he rode on their shoulders and the hoods of squad cars. It turned out that this was a suburban crow named "Samuel West Nottingham," an orphan which had been raised by a teenage girl after its parents died upholding their right to unsow a Maryland cornfield.

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