The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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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.

$12.00 a year by mail or rural routes and areas not serviced by carrier.

$15.00 a year off Island and U.K. $20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.

Not over 7c single copy.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

PAGE 4 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1964.

Liberal Discontent

Now that the Tory leadership question has been settled—at least for the present—Ottawa commentators are beginning to note, for a change, some ominous cloud patches of discontent in the sunny Liberal sky. We can't see them at this distance, but apparently they're visible from Parliament Hill, where the Press Gallery pundits congregate, and where a watch is kept day and night for political portents.

There have been complaints, it is said, in the Liberal Commons caucus about the costly concessions made to Premier Lesage. The tumult has spilled out and onto the front pages of Ontario papers, with several MPs, like Stephen Otto of York East and Lloyd Francis of Carleton protesting in public.

Some of the Liberal MPs have become worried to the point of incautiously admitting that they may be losing a few of their Ontario seats in the politically impossible task of keeping the Quebec Premier satisfied.

A few of the more upset ones even concede that if an election were held now, not only wouldn't they pick up a seat between the Manitoba line and the Rockies, but would be in mortal peril of dropping a few in Ontario and B.C.

What bothers them most, though, is the suspicion that all John Diefenbaker and his followers have to do in the next year or 18 months is to sit tight, cut the cackle among themselves and do nothing about Quebec except utter, from time to time, a few mild-mannered remarks on the desirability of keeping Canada in business as a 10-province Confederation. According to this line of reasoning, Liberal backbenchers, worried over Mr. Pearson's newly-organized Quebec-weighed Cabinet, will do all that has to be done to tip the election scales against them.

To Probe Grievances

Two Canadian provinces—Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan—have decided that the time has come to set up the office of Ombudsman. These will be the first officials of their kind in Canada. The Montreal Gazette suggests that the precedent deserves to be followed by every government in the country. We are inclined to think that it would be wiser to wait and see how it actually works out in our system of government.

The office of Ombudsman was first introduced in Scandinavia, and is in effect that of a "public protector." If anyone feels that he has been unjustly treated by the administrative actions of "ministers, civil servants and all other persons acting in the service of the state" (with the exception of judges), he may make his complaint to the Ombudsman, who has the duty and power to investigate.

There are, of course, the courts, to which legal grievances may be taken. But there are many matters that may affect the citizen unfairly in his dealings with government officials and departments, that do not come within the category of grievances that are matters for legal action. Neither, it is argued, are these matters suitable for questioning in Parliament; for it is generally ruled that Parliament cannot deal with the day-to-day operation of government departments or services. The need is for some official of great independence and authority, who could examine it thoroughly. His report for rectification could then be made to the official or department concerned, and could also, if necessary, be made in his report to Parliament.

The Ombudsman, in fact, would have far wider and more direct powers of investigation than are allowed even to the Opposition in Parliament. Just here is where we begin to have some misgivings. The new official, unlike politicians, will not be directly responsible to the people, and it seems to be assumed that for that reason he will be more effective, if not more vigilant, as a champion of the public weal.

In any case, the idea is gaining ground. We note that the office was recently established in New Zealand, and last September at the annual conference of the Canadian Bar Association, an Ombudsman was recommended in the federal field.

Low Income Homes

According to the civic annual reports, it is expected that definite steps will be taken this year to establish a redevelopment program to ease the housing shortage in Charlottetown. This program has been mooted for the past ten years, and it is high time it was beginning to materialize.

One aspect of this problem, which has caused concern in other centres, will require to be given due consideration here. That is the urgent need for housing for low-income people who are unable to get into heavy debt. The matter was stressed at a recent meeting of the Urban Development Institute held at Toronto, at which the charge was made that many municipalities discriminate against those "lesser homes" through subdivision agreements and zoning laws.

According to the Owen Sound Sun-Times in reporting this meeting, the National Housing Act has done a great deal to lure innnumerable people of limited means into buying $15,000 to $20,000 homes. Under ideal circumstances, families who enter into such housing agreements are able to keep up payments and may, some time in the distant future, actually own homes. On the other hand, they may have incurred a debt which can, and often does, turn unforseen misfortunes into family catastrophes.

There is real need, it is suggested, for a very plainly yet well built home with a minimum of equipment. It must be built entirely for utility, yet one which can be added to and improved as funds become available later on. Such homes, preferably built where there can be plenty of playground facilities and, possibly, community garden space, could go a long way toward solving near slum conditions, particularly in smaller cities.

To Visit Canada

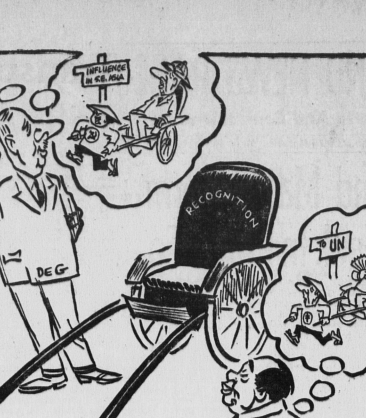
A 130-seat aircraft will carry Scottish businessmen and their wives on a two-week tour of Canada next May. It's a "selling tour", and the centres to be visited are Halifax, Montreal, Vancouver and Winnipeg. But perhaps they could be persuaded to pay Charlottetown a courtesy call as well. Our centenary celebrations will be in full swing then, and what Scotchman would want to miss them?

Members of the party will be representing Scotland's 16 Chambers of Commerce as well as their own concerns, which cover a wide range of industry from textiles to electronics and engineering.

Among the leaders of the group will be William V. Stevens, secretary of the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, who recently told a reporter that trade between Canada and Scotland was growing all the time and they hoped this trip would give it a further boost. "In 1957," he recalled, "we sent out a five-man delegation representing 22 organizations and we are still getting inquiries from that trip. With a team 20 times as strong it seems reasonable to suppose that this visit will be a tremendous success for both Scotland and Canada."

EDITORIAL NOTE

The year 1963 established a record for average daily newspaper circulation in Canada. The figure, 4,200,240, compared with 4,125,544 in 1962, according to a report issued last week by the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.



TWO VIEWS OF THE RICKSHAW

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Moose Jaw Sets Good Example

The people of Moose Jaw have just been highly praised by the Unitarian Service Committee for their charitableness. The U.S.C. is a voluntary organization, with headquarters in Ottawa, which operates one of Canada's most praiseworthy foreign aid projects. Through the U. S. C., the Prairies' "Friendly City" sponsors a foster parent scheme to support twelve needy children in India, China and Korea. This has just completed its ninth year of feeding, clothing and caring for these children, with money subscribed in response to appeals over a Moose Jaw radio station. The cost of upkeep of each child in Asia is $96 per year.

COLORFUL M.P.

Douglas Fisher, the New Democratic Member of Parliament from Port Arthur, has deservedly won his way into the small circle of federal politicians who enjoy nation-wide notoriety. Paul Martin, Bob Thompson, Dr. P. B. Rynard, Bert Herridge, Judy LaMarsh, Eldon Williams, Alan MacEachen and Heath MacQuarrie are some of the obvious members of this charmed circle, in addition to the leaders of the two big parties.

What was Fisher's path, from trooper in the Armoured Corps in the Battle of Normandy to star on Parliament Hill' asks one reader of this column.

LIBRARIAN BY TRAINING

When he left the army in 1945 at the age of 26, Doug Fisher went to the University of Toronto for four years. He won two minor scholarships there, one significantly in political science, and he graduated in Modern History. He remained there another year to study library science; then came a year in England, though not as a Rhodes Scholar, when he studied archives administration at University College, London. For the next two years, he worked as librarian at Queens University, Kingston, at the same time taking courses towards another degree. In this varied curriculum, Doug never studied law.

Between 1953 and 1955, he helped to set up the library at the Lakehead College. Then he taught at Port Arthur Collegiate, until he entered politics by slaying the giant, C. D. Howe.

IMPORTANT TRANSIENT

Britain's Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Pearson last week. Their talks together, and with their two Foreign Ministers, were what diplomatic circles call 'a tour of the horizon' rather than specific negotiations on detailed talks aimed at correcting the dangerous imbalance of trade between us by urging us to "Buy British", will follow when Trade Minister Mitchell Sharp goes to England shortly to confer with his opposite number.

This former Earl of Home may go into the record books as Britain's most quickly defeated prime minister of this century. The polls of public opinion suggest that the coming election will cut off his term of office at less than 12 months. Britain has had a third of its prime ministers this century, for an average tenure of less than five years. The shortest have been Bonar Law (who died after 7 months), Anthony Eden (who resigned through illness after 21 months) and Campbell - Bannerman (28 months).

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the views 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.

FINE BAND PERFORMANCE

Sir,—May we be permitted space in your column to commend the Prince Edward Island Music Festival Association and CFCY television for the program "Stars of the Festival" on Friday evening. This program featured the band of the Prince Edward Island Regiment RCAC with the kind permission of Lt.-Col. D. J. McCormack, E.D., officer-commanding.

In registering our pleasure derived from this band performance we feel that we are merely giving recognition to the same thoughts and sentiments of numerous other residents of the Province.

The members of this band are all working men or have their own businesses to look after, and it is probably not generally known that this fine group of musicians devote many many hours of their own time, often with considerable inconvenience to themselves to attend two or three practices or rehersals each week the year round, as well as make the necessary arrangements for the numerous appearances and activities in which the band participates — fair weather and foul—.

Recognition must also be accorded the kind consideration of the various employers who permit their employed bandsmen time of in order that the band will not be small in numbers for their various public appearances.

We have no doubt that the requests and demands for band activity this Centennial year will be great, even to the extent that some requests may have to be declined due to previous commitments, however, knowing the 'esprit de corps' of this group as we do, it can be said that if their schedule will permit a request to be fulfilled, the performance will be carried out.

It is felt that the members of this band have rendered an excellent public service for the past number of years— probably taken for granted by far to many citizens of the Province and in closing may we commend Lt. C.E. MacGregor, CD, and the members of the regimental band for their fine efforts in the past and trust their future appearances may receive the recognition they have merited and deserve.

We are, Sir, etc.,

ARTHUR H. PEAKE

EARLE K. KENNEDY

Charlottetown

The Rich And The Poor

Globe and Mail, Toronto

Canada has one physician for every 1,000 people. In Indonesia, the proportion is one for every 50,000, and in Ethiopia, it is one for every 100,000. Life expectation for the average person in Canada is 71 years, for the average person in India, it is 45 years.

In Canada, 90 per cent of the homes have running water inside. In Colombia, the proportion in 25 per cent; in Korea, 5 per cent. Canada has 4.2 million television sets; India has 500.

Such statistics as these rest behind the statement— made within recent days by two British political leaders— that the great division in this world is between the nations which have and the nations which have not.

Mr. Richard Butler, Britain's Foreign Secretary, told Copenhagen students last week that while the European and North American nations were steadily growing richer and better educated, "hardly a dent has been or is being made on the problem of poverty and ignorance in the rest of the world.

If this division between the rich and poor nations continues to grow worse, we will be adding gravely to the instability of the world and to the bitterness of man for man.'

The British Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, in a speech to the Empire Club in Toronto last night said, "it is quite clear that the problems facing us in the years ahead is the disparity of wealth between the rich nations and the poor."

The warning is well and wisely expressed. Alarms in Panama and Vietnam, in Cyprus and Berlin, should not blind us to the basic fact and problem—that most of the world's people live in hunger, sickness and ignorance. Until this is remedied, there can be no hope of enduring peace.

The Litter Problem

Orillia Daily Packet and Times

Anyone who visits a fair, an exhibition or carnival, a public meeting or sports event, indeed any affair at which a large number of people are present, cannot but be struck with the enormous amount of litter discarded by spectators and left behind when the crowds depart.

Cartons, coffee cups, soiled tissues, cigarette butts, boxes and wrappers of every kind litter the ground in incredible profusion; the garbage left by the heedless public amounts to tons in such places as the Canadian National Exhibition grounds. The passage of the public is marked by a spoor of litter, for man is the least tidy of animals: no mere pig can compare.

Are Canadians more untidy than people of other countries? Apparently not. A traveller to New Zealand recently complained of the litter found in streets and parks. An Englishman remarks that he found Canadians relatively tidy people after comparing our parks with those in London.

Most of the trouble for Canadians lies in our practice of packaging. Everything now comes to us in a wrapper of some kind, a problem aggravated by the increasing durability of the container. Aluminum foil and various plastics have made modern containers practically indestructible.

The problem now facing our society is how to take advantage of these improved packages without burying our public places and spaces beneath an avalanche of litter which can survive any amount of rain and snow, heat and cold, difficult both to pick up and to dispose of.

The solution might be to inaugurate a concentrated educational campaign on this subject in the very early grades of school, supplementing the training the child undoubtedly has at home. A short course on the responsibility of a child in this matter could have a marked effect.

The combination of police and teacher and parents has worked well in child traffic safety education, and could do equally well with the problem of litter.

SPORTS FISHING

New Zealand's deep-sea sport fish range from 20 to 1,000 pounds in weight and include black marlin, mako, tuna and shark

Aid Posture By Exercise

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Faulty posture is a detrimental to health as well as to appearance. Slumping may begin early in life through carelessness, often because the parents neglect to emphasize the advantages of sitting and walking properly. In others, the cause is illness or poor muscle tone. In still others, occupation is responsible. Backache is common among surgeons, dentists, barbers, jewelers, and others who bend over their work all day long, unless they do certain exercises to offset the strain.

Posture is unbalanced when the head is carried forward instead of held erect. As corollaries, the shoulders droop and become rounded, the spine bends forward, the chest is flat, and the stomach protrudes. These unpleasant details are mentioned to demonstrate the distortions of the spine brought on by defective posture. As a result, discomfort is bound to occur unless the condition is corrected.

The obese also have difficulties along this line. The weight of the protuberant and sagging abdomen pulls the spine down and forward, leading to chronic strain of the lower back. The ligaments and muscles can take just so much of this before they rebel.

The backache of pregnancy is explained on this basis and so is the discomfort of the tall slender person with a well developed pot-belly. The short, stocky person is less likely to suffer from this type of backache.

Good results usually are obtained by reducing, if overweight. Others may need a light corrective brace or corset as a temporary measure until the muscles of the lower back are strengthened by exercise.

Among the maneuvers useful are to stand with the back against the wall, chin in, hands behind the head, and heels 4 to 6 inches away from the floor board. Then press the head, hips, and shoulders against the wall. Stretch tall, take a deep breath, and force the elbows against the wall without arching the back.

Always walk with the head and neck straight and the eyes looking straight ahead, preferably just above the heads of those walking toward you.

CHILLS WITHOUT FEVER

Mrs. E. D. writes: What is the significance of attacks of chills with a subnormal temperature?

REPLY

Most chills are followed by a rise in temperature but some persons feel chilly cold as a result of low metabolism or an impending attack of flu. Others have a subnormal temperature constantly.

BUG HUNTING

A. P. writes: How do you go about finding out if you are a carrier of the staph bug?

REPLY

A physician usually removes secretions from the nose and throat with a cotton - tipped probe. He then places the material on a special medium. If staph are present, small yellowish colonies form on the culture material within 24 hours.

STIFF NECK

F. R. writes: Is wry-neck due to an infection somewhere in the body?

REPLY

The most common cause of this disorder is injury to certain neck muscles at birth. On the other hand, infection of sitting in a draft could be responsible if you refer to ordinary stiff neck.

SAME BEAN

Mrs. G. writes: If a person is allergic to chocolate, will he be allergic to cocoa, too?

REPLY

Yes.

Today's Health Hint—

Thin? Eat more.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO

(February 17, 1939)

A mild type of flu has apparently made its appearance in Charlottetown, Dr. B.C. Keeping Deputy Minister of Health said today. While he had no official record of the number of cases there was more than the average number of cases of colds and he believed it amounted to a mild epidemic of flu. He knew of no casualties in the province.

The Charlottetown Camera Club was organized tonight when a group of directors were named to appoint a slate of officers. Mr. Roland Taylor presided. Directors named were, R.R. Hurst, R. Taylor, C. Charters, G. Harding and N.D. MacLean. It is expected membership will number approximately 75.

TEN YEARS AGO

(February 17, 1954)

The regular weekly meeting of the Centennial Y's Men's Club was held tonight at the YMCA. Neil MacInnis and John Sterns acted as co-chairmen. Bill Kingston, physical instructor of the YMCA in co-operation with Fred Gamble, Fred Norton and Charlie Downe, outlined the activities of the program committee.

Dr. B.J. O'Meara, director of dental health, Department of Health and Welfare was the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of West Kent Home and School Association held tonight in the school auditorium. Dr. G. G Houston, the president, occupied the chair.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Birthday and anniversary gifts promote domestic peace— so, if you're interested in the future, don't overlook the present. —Chatham News.

Perhaps we shouldn't judge a book by its cover but a good many publishers of paperbacks seem to be sure we do.—Ottawa Journal.

No wonder we spend more money for gum than for religion. Gum is used every day.— Calgary Albertan.

The reason we have no faith in world-end predictions is that none of them have ever come true.— Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Makarios's Gamble

By Doug Marshall

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Worried British authorities believe Archbishop Makarios is gambling with a loaded hand grenade that may blow up in his face.

The Greek-Cypriot leader has rejected the Anglo - American plan for an international peace force and this appears to leave no alternative but to involve the United Nations.

The question now is any force, whether organized by the UN, NATO or the Commonwealth, can get there in time to prevent open civil war and a Turkish invasion.

Harassed British troops are having difficulty dealing with a rapidly deteriorating situation and there are reports from Ankara that the Turkish navy is mobilizing.

CYPRUS STUBBORN

The Cyprus government's stubborness seems grounded in the belief that risks of civil war are exaggerated and that the UN will side with the Greek-Cypriots in a long-term constitutional settlement.

Britain believes argumenta about the eventual constituton and the composition of a peace force are irresponsible when the archbishop's long black robe is already being singed. What is needed is a fire brigade.

Britain originally opposed a UN force for three reasons. NATO troops could be organized more quickly, the quarrel could be kept in the family, and there would be no opening for Russian interference.

As it turns out Russia has already interfered—with a letter from Premier Khrushchev—and the chances of a Soviet veto in the UN Security Council are unlikely on the grounds of reason as precedent, if nothing else.

The only question remaining is the composition of the force.

SEE CANADA INVOLVED

Canada is likely to be involved no matter whether the force is drawn from the Commonwealth, the NATO countries or controlled by the UN.

This is because Canadian troops are readily available and Canada is long experience in this sort of peace - keeping operation.

There is some suggestion in London, however, that feelings in Ottawa were ruffled when British Foreign Secretary R. A. Butler seemed to take Canadian co - operation for granted.

Some countries mentioned as being willing to co-operate are Sweden, Denmark and West Germany. If the force moves in under the aegis of the UN, a Communist country will probably be involved.

Sunspots And Radio

National Geographic Society

When spots speckle the surface of the sun, radio signals are apt to bounce crazily about the globe.

During a peak of sunspot activity, London television viewers were startled to hear a New York taxicab dispatcher ordering a driver named "Mac" to proceed posthaste to Flatbush Avenue.

Two girls frankly discussing a blind date on the telephone entwined a New Jersey radio station's programming in another sunspot induced communications freak.

Sunspots also have been associated with everything from swallow migrations to the French Revolution, the National Geographic Society says. The evidence for these far- reaching effects is shaky, but the spots apparently do influence a variety of things.

MAY IMPROVE WINE

A French researcher found that great vintages in Burgundy wines follow maximum solar activity.

Biologists in Iceland discovered that the North Atlantic lumpfish, a source of caviar, proliferates when the sun is spotty. The cod, however, prefers a clear sun.

New York psychiatrists recently computed a correlation between mental hospital admissions and intense sunspot disturbances.

Sunspots have been observed and described since the ancient Chinese thought they saw "flying birds" in the sun. The spots cannot be seen by the unaided eye except when the sun is shrouded by mist, fog, thin clouds, smoke, or when it is reddening at dusk.

In 1371, great forest fires in Russia darkened the skies. A chronicler wrote: "There was a sign in the sun, dark spots on the sun, as if nails were driven into it... the murkiness made it impossible to see anything for more than seven feet."

The spots look dark only by contrast with the more luminous surface about them. They actually have a temperature of about 4,000 degrees centigrade.

Galileo detected sunspots shortly after he built his telescope in 1610, but his findings were challenged. The master philosopher Aristotle had taught earlier that the sun was without blemish, and Galileo's critics said the spots he saw must be in his eyes or on his telescope lens.

SPOTS ARE HUGE

The sunspots are not mere blemishes. They are great vortexes of gas on its surface. Many measure 40,000 miles across; a giant spot spread 200,000 miles in 1947. The smallest spots last less than a day; the largest persist for several months and move as the sun rotates.

In the 19th century, German astronomers detected that the spots normally appear in 11-year cycles. One of the most assiduous observers was Samuel Heinrich Schwabe, of whom it was said, "The sun nave rose unclouded above the horizon of Dessau without being encountered by Schwabe's imperturbable telescope."

Astronomers are not sure what causes sunspots. One theory is that they stem from magnetic interference with heated gas as it rises to the sun's surface by convection. Convection currents develop because gas expands and rises as it becomes hotter — like the air above a radiator.

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