The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Executive Editor — Editor

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PAGE 4 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1962

Inspired By Mr. Shaw?

According to the Winnipeg Free Press, Premier Roblin's hurried decision to go to the people on December 14 came as a considerable surprise to the electors of Manitoba. The present Conservative government was elected in May 1959 and did not need to have an election until 1964, although it might have been justified in having one next spring or summer. One of the factors influencing Mr. Roblin's decision, in the opinion of the Free Press, "was probably the decision earlier this week by the Conservative government of Prince Edward Island to call a premature election. Premier Shaw is going to the country with even more haste than Mr. Roblin. His government was elected in August 1959 and so has been in office for a little over three years."

However, the Free Press notes that Premier Roblin is "an astute politician" and it appears to think that his chances of re-election are good. At any rate, it says: "He rode into office on the Diefenbaker wave of 1958; perhaps he intends now to make certain that he does not ride out of office on the Diefenbaker defeat of 1963."

We doubt if the Opposition here would phrase its analysis of Premier Shaw's motives in calling a December 10 election in precisely these words. They might charge him with attempting to do the same thing, but surely not with intending "to make certain" of doing it. For, unfortunately from the Opposition point of view, this could be too close to a realistic evaluation of the situation.

There is an old Western tradition about the advantage of being "first on the draw." Its application to political gunplay was underlined in the Quebec election returns the other night. According to Mr. Johnson, the Union Nationale leader, "If Premier Lesage had given us six more months the result would have been different." But he didn't, and they weren't. The same thing could happen elsewhere.

In any case, the question remains: If it was Premier Shaw who inspired Premier Roblin to take the warpath at this unexpected time, what was it that prompted Premier Lesage and Premier Smallwood to hit the trail in Quebec and Newfoundland? Our Winnipeg contemporary is silent on this point. It sees political opportunism only among the Tories. We take a broader—or perhaps a more cynical—view, and see it pretty well everywhere. The drift is noticeable in more than snap elections, but that is a subject that will have to wait for another day.

A Crazy Economy

There are tempting opportunities of making cut-rate export sales of butter as a means of solving Canada's big butter surplus. Agriculture Minister Hamilton told the House of Commons the other day that scores of offers from around the world to buy butter are being received, at consessional prices well below the commercial world price.

Canada has had to refuse these offers, however. It has obligations to trading partners who are exporting butter at commercial prices, and these obligations must be lived up to.

There is no question that the Government is obliged to follow this course, but it illustrates one of the great handicaps under which our world trade machinery is operating. For it is not only to butter that this restriction applies. Many other food surpluses are prevented from moving to countries where they are badly needed, for the same reason.

Economists haven't untangled this problem yet. Other more urgent matters seem to be crowding it continually off the stage. But when the history of this generation is written, this failure of the surplus food nations to meet a challenge that they alone can solve, and that means so much to other nations on the borderline between existence and starvation, may stand out as the most damning indictment of our times.

It was Gandhi who said that "to the millions who have to go without two meals a day the only acceptable form in which God dare appear is food." Terrible words, and still applicable despite all the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations in distributing food to needy countries throughout the world. Many now can get as gifts a portion of what they are unable to buy at the price they can afford to pay. That is better than nothing at all, of course. But surely it is a crazy system of economy, quite out of keeping with the needs of the times, not to speak of the moral obligations that are involved.

Geneva Prospects

The resumption, on November 26, of the 17-nation disarmament committee sessions at Geneva is hailed as "an encouraging factor" by Lieut. General Burns, Canadian disarmament delegate, who expresses the belief that the committee will at last "get down to serious negotiations." Canada has been urging an early resumption of negotiations at practically every opportunity, and this occasion seemed to afford particular grounds for optimism.

In their exchange of messages on the Cuban crisis President Kennedy, Premier Khrushchev and Prime Minister Macmillan pledged their best efforts to reach agreement on an end of all nuclear tests. Building on this, the United Nations Assembly overwhelmingly approved a resolution urging that all tests cease forthwith, but in any case by January 1. The prospects looked good when this resolution was passed.

Unfortunately, Mr. Macmillan's subsequent announcement that Britain would conduct a nuclear test—albeit small and underground—at the Nevada site, may make a difference. There is no doubt that there will be strong criticism if the British test occurs on the eve of the Geneva negotiations, or after the talks open. British newspapers have attacked it as "a miserably clumsy gesture," and loath as we are to say so, we cannot but agree. The Communists, of course, are damning it, hypocritically, in much stronger terms. The blunder lies in having given them the opportunity of making this kind of propaganda at a time when the positions of East and West appeared to be drawing closer on this issue.

EDITORIAL NOTES

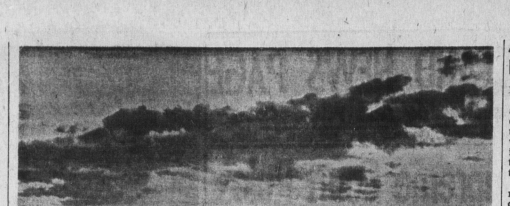
Extensive research has been carried out in Britain over a period of years into the cause of the common cold. One of the latest experiments engaging the services of 6,000 volunteers has just been completed. It proved—what most of us knew already—that drafts and chills are a major cause of the common cold.

* * *

Youth notably rose to the top in last week's big reshuffle of U.S. state governorships. Of the 17 new governors-elect, two are in their 30's and 11 in their 40's. None is over 55; the average is 45. The youngest sitting governor, Ray Keyser of Vermont, 35, was knocked out of the ranks, but his successor, Philip Hoff, is only 38 himself. The new "baby" of the governors is Georgia's Carl Sanders at 37.

* * *

We got a shock the other day on reading, in a leading mainland newspaper, the heading: "Canada To Attack Himalayas." We thought for a moment that we had jumped right into the undeclared war on the Indo-Chinese frontier. But the story was merely about an expedition of eight or nine Canadians which will attempt to scale the mighty mountain range in the Karakoram area, with the permission of the Pakistani government.



SUNSET AT STANHOPE BEACH

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Dramatic Week Of 1926 Recalled

Packed galleries thrilled to the drama in the House of Commons on the memorable evening of Tuesday, November 6, when two divisions challenged the Conservative government. Its fate, in this House of Minorities, depended upon the tiny Social Credit group.

That echoes the historical similarity on Dominion Day in 1926, when the likewise tiny and split Progressive Party settled a crucial battle between the Conservative and Liberal minorities.

It had been a stormy week on Parliament Hill. There was no 10 p.m. curfew in the House 36 years ago, and the sitting of Friday, June 25, ended at 5.17 a.m. on Saturday. But the normal sleepiness of that late hour was contradicted, not so much by the midsummer dawn as by the excitement of three close votes which had toppled the minority Liberal government of King.

UNIQUE DEFEAT

On the following Monday, Mr. King announced the resignation of his government — the only occasion in our history when the government has changed as the direct result of a vote in Parliament.

The Governor General had refused his request that Parliament be dissolved and an election called. Instead, in a gesture fated to be enshrined in our political records, he sent for Mr. Meighen, the leader of the Conservatives who formed the largest but still a minority party, and invited him to form a government.

Three days of parliamentary wrangling ensued. Then a bitter debate ended in a division which would determine whether or not the new government enjoyed the confidence of a majority in the House.

The 24 Progressive M.P.s held the balance of power then, just as the 30 Social Credit M.Ps do today. Some would vote for the government, others against it, and a few abstain. But how would the cookie crumble? The Conservative and Liberal whips excitedly counted heads, checked the "pairs" for their many absent supporters, and tried to fathom Progressive intentions. It would be a close vote.

Sleepily, for it was after 2 a.m., the M.Ps cast their votes. The Clerk announced the count: For the Government — 95; against the Government — 96.

The government had been overthrown — by a single vote. And that was the result of a broken "pair", as was at once revealed when Thomas Bird M.P., a 43-year old Methodist minister from Manitoba, rumbled to his feet. He asked the Speaker to withdraw his vote, the vote which had toppled the government.

"I wish to explain to the House," said that Progressive M.P., "and with extreme regret, that I was paired, and I cast my vote inadvertently.

He was paired, oddly enough, with another Progressive M.P. of a different feather, D.M. Kennedy from Peace River. This unusual "pair" highlighted the split in the party which held the balance of power.

LINKS WITH TODAY

But Mr. Speaker Lemieux, perhaps the greatest Speaker our House has ever been ruled that no vote once cast may be withdrawn.

That "inadvertent" defeat of a government has ever since then been quoted as illustrating the danger of the unofficial practice of "pairing". Yet it is believed to be the only example in our 95 years experience of federal Parliament of a breach in that pledge of honour. In fact, 23 other M.P.s refrained from voting on that same division, because they were paired with M.Ps who were absent.

Although that dramatic week was now 36 years ago, one M.P. who voted on those exciting nights still sits in our House today: Hon. Earl Rowe, from Dufferin Simcoe. Other present M.Ps had family links in that earlier House, such as Mrs. Jean Casselman, Earl Rowe's daughter, whose late husband M.C. Casselman was then a M.P.; and Mrs. Margaret MacDonald, of Kings P.E.I., whose father-in-law, Hon. J.A. MacDonald, was then an M.P. Galt's Gordon Chaplin had his father, Hon. J.D. Chaplin, and an uncle, A.D. Chaplin, then sitting. Hon. Hugh John Flemming, Minister of National Revenue, is the son of an M.P. of that day, who like himself had been Premier of New Brunswick. And another New Brunswicker, Tom Bell, can claim that his grandfather, also named Tom Bell, voted through that headlined week of long ago.

Should Stiffen Penalties

Moncton Transcript

With lobster poaching and the fishing of undersized and berried crustaceans reported to have been on the increase this year in Northumberland Strait waters off New Brunswick shores, it is encouraging to observe that fisheries inspection officers from six counties have agreed to recommend to the Department of Justice that considerations be given to empower magistrates to impose heavier fines than presently permitted by statute upon violators found guilty of illegal fishing.

The officials, at a meeting in Moncton last week, are reported as having found that the scale of fines for offences under the Fisheries Act has proved to be no deterrent to illegal fishing of lobsters and that such breach of the laws constituted the main problem experienced by the enforcement officers in this province.

No branch of the fisheries industry has been bedevilled to such an extent by the operations of poachers and other violators than that of lobstering. While the depredations by the lawless element upon this fishery have not reached the epidemic proportions of ten to a dozen or so years ago, nevertheless that this year has seen an increase in illegal practices is most disturbing.

Salutary action that will bring about the suppression of such rising trend that could further endanger the lobster crustacean fishery must be taken if it is to be protected and its value to the economy preserved. The recommendation of the fisheries inspection officers should receive the immediate attention of the Department of Justice and the necessary steps taken that will give statutory effect to the imposition of stiffer penalties upon persons convicted of poaching and other illegal depredations upon the lobster fishery.

British Guiana Conference

Winnipeg Free Press

Many people will not be disappointed that the constitutional conference on British Guiana being held in London has collapsed. For a short time at least the nightmare of a completely independent British Guiana under the control of Dr. Cheddi Jagan, an admitted Communist, has been staved off.

Little comfort, however, can be taken from the knowledge that no solution has been found. For a year British Guiana has been internally self-governing. Britain can no more indefinitely withhold full independence in South America than it can in Africa or Asia.

The British government and the leaders of all three British Guiana political parties are agreed that a date for the transfer of power must soon be set. The London talks failed because Premier Jagan insists on maintaining the single-constituency system which now provides him a majority of seats on a minority vote. The opposition party leaders, Messrs. Peter D'Aguiar and Forbes Burnham, demand proportional representation and new elections before independence.

The real question, of course, is who is to govern the newly independent nation. As the political leaders are unlikely to be able to agree on the constitutional procedure which will provide the answer the British government will probably be forced to impose its own solution. This responsibility the colonial secretary, Mr. Duncan Sandys, has already rightly acknowledged.

Mischief-Making Words

Ottawa Journal

Politicking down in Nova Scotia, Mr. Lester Pearson told a Liberal party meeting that the Diefenbaker Government had "a positive genius for irritating our two greatest friends and our two greatest customers— the United States and Britain." He added:

"They seem to get along all right, though, with Cuba and Communist China."

It seems all but incredible that a Canadian political leader should descend to this sort of mischief at this time, to try to spread the impression that the Government of Canada is more friendly to Communist countries than to Britain and the United States!

People sometimes wonder why there should be so much cynicism over our parties, a movement away from our two-party system to factions and groups, even to crackpot groups. May not part of the answer be in the seemingly growing propensity of party politicians like Mr. Pearson to attribute to their opponents the basest conduct? The big lie, even the lesser lie, does come to be believed.

Criticism, fair criticism, is desirable, necessary. But when criticism is lowered to unmanly innuendo, when it ceases to be responsible and attributes to others motives mean or treacherous, it can only undermine our whole political way and wound Canada.

If Mr. Pearson were the person so many of us for so long thought him to be, he would take the first opportunity to withdraw his miscHievous words and apologize to the country.

RACOONS SHOCKED

ORILLIA, Ont. (CP) — Sam Smith, a local farmer, surrounded his corn field with an electrified fence in a successful attempt to ward off racoons. Since he erected the fence he has had no racoon damage.

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.

LOSS TO COMMUNITY

Sir, — In the passing of Mrs. D. E. Gallant, as the result of an automobile accident on Elm Avenue on November 7., the community has lost one of its beloved and charming women. Mrs. Gallant was ever ready to help in any cause whatsoever for the betterment of the community as a whole. Whether it was Retarded Children, Red Cross or Church Work, she was ready and willing to help. Possessed of a charming personality, unbounded energy and ability, her place in the home and in the community will be hard to fill.

On the night of her tragic death, her knitting club was to have met at her well stocked home where sweaters, mittens and socks would be made for those in need. About 6 o'clock she decided to pay a visit to the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer and on crossing the Reserve Street intersection she met her untimely death. "Truly, in the midst of life, we are in death."

The many Mass Cards, profusion of flowers and the large funeral procession all testify to the high esteem in which Mrs. Gallant was held by all.

Those who are left to mourn a loving wife and mother and a truly beloved grandmother will be consoled by the prayer. May God in His great mercy have mercy on her generous and noble soul.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ROSE G. RYAN.
Charlottetown

Are Lollipops Really Needed?

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

THE LOLLIPOP giveaway is a well established medical procedure among physicians who treat children. It is used to reward the Little Leaguer for being brave during the examination, injection, or anything else that might hurt him.

It works like a charm in the majority of instances. Tears disappear immediately, signs of agony or defiance give way to smiles, and the atmosphere changes from tenseness to calmness. Other youngsters take the examination and shots in stride and look forward to the reward. Years come only when the physician is out of lollipops temporarily and offers cookies instead.

Many physicians object to the lollipop giveaway as being inconsistent with good medical care. Candy is given as a reward in early life but the medical profession condemns it later because it encourages dental decay.

In addition, candy is a food and when used frequently as a bribe, might encourage the development of overweight. Dr. Morton B. Glaun of New York City stresses this point. He firmly believes that many obese adults were obese children and the treatment of the condition, including the establishment of good eating habits, should begin early in life.

Is the lollipop necessary? Dr. Bernard A. Yahlin of Rochester, N.Y., put the question to a scientific test and submitted the results to the New England Journal of Medicine. He gave lollipops to 130 children in his office to distract their attention following painful procedures. A. followup study for three or 15 months showed that none of these youngsters acquired unusual feeding habits.

He decided to omit giving suckers to 15 children and to note the results. Nothing happened except that some yelled a little longer. But the response to the physician on subsequent visits was no different.

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

CIRCULATION STUDIES

D.J. writes: What tests are done to determine disturbances of the circulatory system?

REPLY

The circulation of an extremity is tested by feeling the skin to see if it is warm or cold; or taking the pulse to determine if it is strong, weak, or absent; and looking to see whether the skin turns light or dark red after a leg hangs down. From this point on, there are numerous procedures, such as the oscillometer, measurements of skin temperature and circulation time, studies dealing with spasm, and the use of X-rays to study the patency of the blood vessels.

LEPROSY IN THE BIBLE

L.J. writes: In the new English revision of the Bible, I read that the revisers are changing the word leprosy to psoriasis. Are these two diseases the same?

REPLY

No. They are as different as ham and cheese. The skin lesions also are dissimilar but many authorities believe the people of Biblical times thought victims of psoriasis and other skin disorders had leprosy.

CHEESY CYSTS

I.S. writes: What should be one's attitude toward a sebaceous cyst?

REPLY

Cheerful. These cysts contain a cheesy material and are more unsightly than serious. They do not become malignant and should be removed only when they are bothersome or represent a cosmetic defect.

FACIAL PANGS

E.F. writes: Could a 4-year-old child suffer from tic douloureaux? The child gets sudden and momentary seizures of pain near his mouth.

REPLY

Yes, although trigeminal neuralgia is unusual at this age This child's teeth, gums, and ears should be examined.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Turn off portable or gas heaters before retiring.

REFORMER AMBUSHED

TEHRAN, Iran (Reuters) — The government Wednesday imposed martial law in Shiraz, capital of the southern province of Fars, following the murder of Malek Abedi, chief of the province's land reform organization. Abdel was ambushed by masked bandits Monday while driving to survey large private estates which are to be distributed among landless peasants.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Canada has more TV sets than bathtubs. Cleanliness now is next to television.— Ottawa Journal.

To date there has been no record that there have been any traffic jams on the straight and narrow way. — Saskatoon Star-Pheonix

The stingy farmer was scoring the hired man for carrying a lighted lantern to call on his best girl. "The idea!" he exclaimed. "When I was courtin', I never carried no lantern; I went in the dark." "Yes," said the hired man, sadly, "and look what you got." — Montreal Star.

Some mysterious fossils have been found in the vicinity of Parliament Hill. Well, at least this lot is mysterious. — Ottawa Journal

The arrest and charging of Joseph (Joey O'Brien) Aiupa, the great white hunter of the Chicago crime syndicate, with illegally slaughtering 476 mourning doves in the Pittsburg, Kan., area is reminiscent of the way Al Capone was nailed not for his slayings but for income tax evasion. There's something symbolic in this: It's safer to shoot people in Chicago than doves in Kansas. Maybe what Chicago needs is game wardens to protect the people.—Wichita Eagle.

Tough-Minded Turks

National Geographic Society

Turkey's last frontier station in the Caucasus foothills facing Soviet Russia displays this sign: "We Turks are proud of our freedom, and we are ready to die for our freedom."

Geographically, what Turkey's 28,600,000 people are willing to die for is a westernized republic slightly larger than Texas. Theirs is a land of big sky and wide open spaces, of isolated villages and farms.

The vast central plateau, though exposed to extremes of heat and cold and drought, is one of the world's great wheat granaries. The storage elevators stand as tall as those in Kansas.

TWO METROPOLISES

There are only two izable cities in Turkey. Istanbul, overlooking the pale-blue Bosporus, has a metropolitan- area population of almost two million. Ankara, made to order as capital of the republic formed in 1923, has mushroomed from a dusty hilltop town— which was said to be as dark at night as the inside of a camel— into a neon-bright city with more than 1,300,000 area residents.

The Arabian Nights atmosphere has all but vanished from Turkey, yet a distinctive flavor lingers. In Istanbul, some 450 mosques point their minarets at the sky. And where else could one expect to find a confection so titillating to the palate as to be called "The Imam Fainted"?

Though the fez has been outlawed since 1923, many men wear Western-style caps turned to the back so they can touch foreheads to ground while praying to Mecca five times a day. Most Turks are Moslems.

The Turkish race originally sprang from tribesmen of the Asian steppes. Now Turks generally have a swarthy, liquid-eyed Mediterranean look, but there are blond Turks and titian Turks. Ataturk, the swashbuckling father of modern Turkey, happened to have red hair and blue eyes.

Ataturk holds a unique place in world history, having abruptly and forcefully turned a feudal Asiatic nation into a Western-style democracy. Among other things, Ataturk separated church and state; replaced old laws with modern European codes; gave women political and social rights; abolished polygamy and harems; prescribed Western dress for men; substituted the Latin alphabet for Arabic characters; set up a nationwide system of compulsory education.

The changeabout did not, of course, turn Turkey into Utopia. Not being blessed with abundant water, minerals, or oil, this farming nation has a difficult time making ends meet. The main exports are wheat, cotton, tobacco, fruits, poppy seeds, and meerschaum. Per capita income is less than $200 a year.

The site of controversial missile bases, Turkey guards the right flank of the North Atlantic Treaty nations. It spends up to a half of its annual budget for defense. Its army is the largest in the Moslem world. Communism is illegal.

Turkey, which occupies the peninsula of Asia Minor and extends onto European soil, is exposed to the Communist threat for 1,100 miles. The rectangular country touches Bulgaria at its northwest corner, faces the Soviet Union across the Black Sea, and shares with it a 350-mile land border.

The Turks are noted for their physical toughness and tenacity. They have withstood various threats from Russian soil for 400 years. When war broke out in Korea, 30,000 Turks volunteered for the first contingent of 1,800 destined for service with United Nations forces there. General MacArthur called Turkish UN fighters "the bravest of the brave."

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO (November 16, 1937)

The Canadian Airways mail and passenger plane was grounded at Summerside last night en route from Moncton, because of darkness and heavy rain. When Summerside airport was reached pilot Jones decided to remain there. Passengers and mail were sent to Charlottetown by bus.

Word was received here today of the election of Dr. David Wallace MacKenzie, a native of Prince Edward Island, and Urologist - in-chief at Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, since 1918 to honorary membership in the Royal Society of Medicine of Great Britain.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 16, 1952)

The Post Office building at Hopefield, owned by Chester MacEachern, was destroyed by fire Thursday evening. The post office occupied one room in a recently remodelled building, the dwelling house portion of the building was occupied.

A fisheries exhibition to be held in connection with one of the local regattas was suggested yesterday by Hon. Eugene Cullen, Minister of Industry and Resources, in addressing the annual meeting of the P.E.I. Fisheries Federation.

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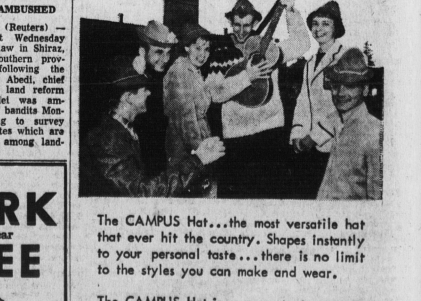

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