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 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"  
 Editor and Manager, Ian A. Burnett.  
 Associate Editor, Frank Walker.  
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 "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."  
 THURSDAY, DEC. 2, 1954

Impact Of A National Policy

Few in Prince Edward Island would quarrel with the proposition that a national policy aimed at keeping rail freight rates on agricultural products as low as possible, is a sound one. There would be less certainty, however, if the effect of such a national policy were to favor one segment of the agricultural economy at the expense of another. Still graver would be the doubt if the effect of such a national policy were to be widespread unemployment and personal hardship.

Such considerations are cogent reason for the widespread interest in the Maritime Provinces in the observations of Chief Justice Sloan, Federal Arbitrator in the recent rail labor dispute, on the subject of Crowsnest Pass grain rates.

In his award, Chief Justice Sloan finds that the railways are actually losing money in hauling grain, which accounts for about one-third of the total volume of rail freight traffic, at statutory rates no higher today than in 1899. He concludes that the burden of carrying grain at such abnormally depressed rates is falling, in varying degree, on the railways, the shippers and consumers of higher-rated commodities, and upon rail employees, including the 20,000 railwaymen who have been laid off during the last year because of the stringency of rail finances.

The Arbitrator, it is worth noting, does not attack the principle of low freight rates on export grain movements by rail. Rather, he deplores the effect upon other segments of the economy.

If, as Chief Justice Sloan finds, the consequential effects of that policy include the paying of a higher level of freight rates by the Maritime Provinces, protected by the 20 per cent differential of the Maritime Freight Rates Act and not by an absolute ceiling such as exists in respect of Prairie grain and grain products, than in the name of economic commonsense, something ought to be done to assure more equitable treatment of various agricultural areas in the country.

That something, according to Chief Justice Sloan, is for the National Treasury to shoulder the burden of maintaining low grain freight rates. Such a proposal, whether the subsidy involved is to the western grain producers or to the railways, makes far more sense than perpetuating a situation in which 20,000 railway employees are jobless because of the indirect but consequential effects of the policy implicit in the Crowsnest Pass grain freight rates.

New Health Plan

Sweden has long been in the forefront of European nations with respect to social legislation. Now, a report from Stockholm tells about a new health plan that has been introduced by the Labour-Agrarian Government and approved by the Riksdag. Under its provisions every Swedish resident will be covered by health insurance from the first of next year, regardless of age, physical condition, or economic status. It will, of course, be compulsory. The total cost for the first year will be in the vicinity of \$140 million. The State will bear 27% of it and the balance will be assumed by the insured persons and their employers. In the cases of self-employed persons or those whose incomes are derived solely from investments provision is made for their assuming the payments which, in other cases, are met by the employers. Persons whose annual incomes are \$3000 or less will pay approximately 1 1/2% to the fund. Those who earn more will be permitted to carry additional protection.

The benefits will be varied and widespread. Public wards in Government-controlled hospitals will be free, as will medicines in most cases. Patients who require or prefer private rooms will pay for them, but at rates considerably lower than those which have been in effect hitherto. Compensation for loss of time, due to sickness, will be about \$3.00 a day up to two years under the minimum income provision. Corresponding benefits will be available for those whose incomes allow them to take out the extra voluntary coverage. Patients will pay the usual physician's fees; but these will be reimbursed by the Government to the extent of 75% up to a certain ceiling. This will apply also in the case of dental and clinical care.

A \$50.00 bonus will be paid a mother with the birth of each child; in addition they will receive free obstetrical attention either in the hospital or at home. Some physicians are not too happy about the plan; mainly, it is reported, because they dread the necessity of filling out innumerable

able reports and forms which are inevitable in any project that is State-controlled. On the whole, however, they are reported to be ready to co-operate with State officials in trying to make it work satisfactorily. The plan is certainly a comprehensive one and it appears to be as free from complications and ambiguities as it was possible to make it. Doubtless, other Governments which have been studying ways and means of bringing in some sort of national health plan, without disturbing the normal tax structure too drastically, will be watching the Swedish experiment with interest.

Incredible

Down in old Virginia members of the Roanoke College debating team have been considering for some time whether or not they should take the affirmative side of the question: "Should the United States recognize the Communist Government of China?" Dr. Sherman Oberly, President of the college, has now announced that, on his advice, the students have decided to steer clear of the controversial question. He said it was felt that if they were to go ahead with it "many persons might misunderstand and call for investigation of the college."

This, surely, is a new departure in debating procedure. It always has been understood that taking one side or the other in a debate on a controversial subject does not necessarily mean that a debater's personal convictions follow that particular direction. In fact, the usual custom has been to pick participants solely on the basis of their critical ability, without any regard whatsoever for their personal views. The highest qualification any debater can possess is the ability to take either side with equal facility.

At the present time recognition of the Peiping regime is about the most forlorn cause that could be sponsored by anyone in the United States; indeed, the Chinese Communists themselves appear to be doing everything possible to keep it from gaining any support. Nothing that the most talented student debater could say in the affirmative would be likely to have the slightest quickening effect on a dead issue; but it is incredible that students should be denied the privilege of testing their debating skill by upholding a view which, in popular opinion, has nothing to commend it. How else can they learn to cultivate true critical ability?

EDITORIAL NOTES

The rise continues in American steel consumption, paralleling the similar trend in this country, including the Maritimes. Once more steel users find that it is not a case of choosing but of securing steel.

A New York patent attorney, describing Canadian patent law as a compromise between that of the United States and Britain, recommends that this country should adopt the simpler procedures of British law in order to reduce the long period of waiting for a patent to be granted.

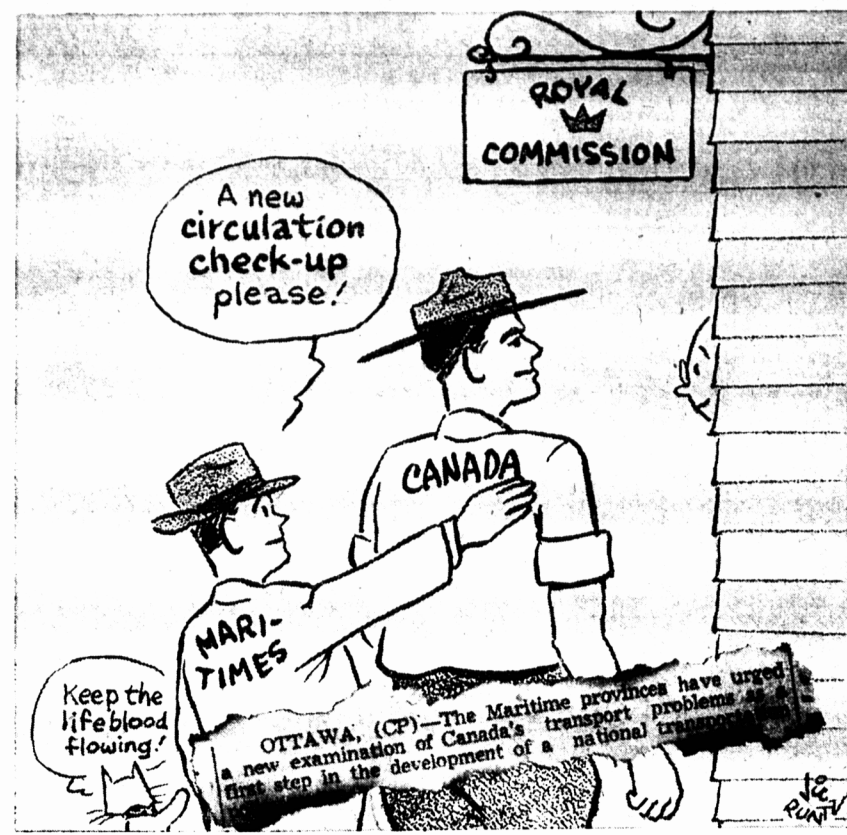
This year, since Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Saturdays, Federal civil servants will receive the preceding Friday afternoons off with pay. Since Boxing Day, a Provincial holiday, falls on a Sunday, the following Monday will be a legal holiday.

Girl Guides can speak of "our" chalet in Switzerland and will soon be able to speak of "our Cabana" in Mexico. The second world centre for Guides will be built near Cuernavaca. Since 1932 Guides from all over the world have enjoyed winter sports and training at their chalet.

Establishment of an international children's day has been approved by the social committee of the United Nations General Assembly. It would seem, however, that the committee was unable to reach agreement on a date for world-wide understanding amongst the rising generation, because each country is left to choose its own date.

Canadians do not usually consider that their diet is particularly highly spiced but we managed to make away with 2,380,000 pounds of pepper last year, as well as substantial quantities of ginger, cloves, nutmeg, mace, tumeric, cassia, allspice and paprika. The bi-monthly magazine of the Department of Trade and Commerce has all the spicy details.

Hernando Cortes, conqueror of Mexico, died in Seville this date 1547. He went to study law at Salamanca, but a love of adventure caused him to sail with a relative who was governor of Hispaniola. He distinguished himself in the conquest of Cuba and was chosen by Velasquez to command an expedition into the interior of New Spain (Mexico). His commission was revoked but he refused to turn back and captured Montezuma by a trick. He practically subdued the country but was relieved of his command.



OTTAWA, (CP)—The Maritime provinces have urged a new examination of Canada's transport problems as a first step in the development of a national transportation plan.

The Poet's Corner

BACK SOON  
 I leave the door unlatched and hang a terse "Back soon" upon the knob. Not meaning to Elude a visitor, and yet averse To measuring by a clock each thing I do.  
 "Back soon" may mean before the mist has dried From meadows where at dawning sings the lark: Or in the fragrant dusk when fire-flies glide: Lighting the fields with intermittent spark.  
 "Back soon" is noncommittal as a star We call by name in its appointed place: We're to change its course and stray afar. No one would charge it with a lack of grace. Then think not ill of one whose strategy Avoids time limits on felicity.  
 —Betty Cassie Liddell in Christian Science Monitor.

The Problem of Sleep

(BBC Talks)  
 "When we come to add it up you know, we spend so much of our lives in sleep that we may feel a little ashamed of ourselves. Suppose we sleep seven hours a night, then in seven days that's forty-nine hours, and that again equals two whole days," said Professor Sir George Jefferson, C.B.E., F.R.S., talking in the BBC's General Overseas Service. Some people thought this a waste of time and felt badly about it but, said Sir Geoffrey, "What we really ought to do is to feel extremely proud of ourselves for having been awake for five whole days out of seven. So much have we changed since we were babies and were awake scarcely half a day in all our seven days. Physiologists, doctors and neurologists today were much more interested in the neurological mechanisms of waking and remaining awake than in sleep alone for the investigation of arousal or awakening controls had replaced interest in the so-called sleep centres. When human beings speak of sleep they were usually thinking about insomnia and some of the best references to sleep in literature referred to the lack of it. "Perhaps if people had not been worried by insomnia there would have been less poetry," he said.

Sir Geoffrey listed the many physiological changes that occur during sleep. The general impression that people slept "like logs" was quite untrue and all sorts of little movements were made quite unconsciously during sleep for it was uncomfortable to lie in one position for any length of time and the sleeper moved to reduce pressure on a given point. Only during the first two hours did people sleep really deeply and afterwards they were more easily roused. Different times of year also affected the depth of sleep, and the early sunrises of summer, the noise of birds and animals or of people going to work all provided stimulations that aroused people slightly or completely. People did not sleep so well in hot weather because they perspired more freely and conditions were better for sleeping in winter, provided the bedroom was warm. Another interesting fact was that no one was at his best early in the morning. "Performance tests show a rise in ability from 10.00 a.m. onwards, reaching a maximum about noon and commencing to fall about 3.00 or 4.00 p.m. If these tests are to be believed, we are only at the top of our form for a brief period of the twenty-four hours, though obviously we are expert enough for many hours," he said.

There was eternal controversy over how long people should sleep but some people needed more sleep than others did and the body adopted the routine that was natural to it. Experiments had been made to find out what happened if men were kept awake artificially for very long periods. After thirty-six hours subjects had to be constantly supervised for they experienced an almost irresistible tendency for the lids to droop and close. "Now do we sleep because there are sleep centres in the brain which are stimulated by the waste products of our normal daily activities? On the whole the evidence is against it," said Sir Geoffrey. Healthy exercise was conducive to sleep but over-fatigue was alien to it. Scientists now believed that there were sleep centres in the brain stem and base of the brain and that these stimulated the millions of nerve cells in the brain, the arousal centres themselves having been tuned up by the arrival of messages from eyes, ears and other senses. It was probable that those arousal centres fired and then, when the brain was no longer alert, blessed sleep stole over it. "That sleep," said Professor Jefferson, "that Shakespeare called 'Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course, chief nourisher in life's feast'."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Hunger, says an expert, tends to make motorists an unsafe driver and the noon-time rush hour in Edmonton appears to confirm the theory.  
 Britain and France are going to swap electricity through an undersea water cable during peak periods. Like living by taking in each other's washing. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.  
 This autumn's livestock shows emphasize that not only is there very little daylight showing under modern beef cattle, but with a bit of weather-stripping there wouldn't even be a draft. —Edmonton Journal.  
 Ottawa Journal: In a Toronto court a man of fifty-two years tried to argue that twenty-eight convictions since he was sixteen did not make him a habitual criminal. The judge held, however, that the accused had lost his amateur status. —Saint John Telegraph.

What happened to a parrot at a competition for talking birds in Barcelona, Spain, shouldn't happen to any bird. He was dishonorably dismissed because in addition to the seven proper languages in which he is proficient he also professed an eighth —the profane. This seems to us a case of foisting the sins of the man onto the bird. Birds don't learn the human language from other birds; they learn it from men. And it isn't easy, if it is possible for even a wise old bird to discern proper from improper language. —Windsor Star.

Old Charlottetown and P. E. I.  
 MOVING DIORAMA  
 "The celebrated Moving Diorama, from Spring Gardens, London, which has attracted so much attention and received so many flattering notices from the London press, was exhibited last evening and will be continued for a few evenings, at Mr. Cantello's large building, Market Square. The views represent Captain Parry and Hoopner's last voyage to the Arctic or Frozen Regions, the Storming of Seringapatam, and the Battle of Trafalgar, and the Death of Lord Nelson on the Ship Victory. As nothing of the kind has ever been seen here before, we have not the least doubt that the public will generally avail themselves of this opportunity of visiting so novel a scene. Admission, boxes 3s., gallery 1s. 6d., children half price."  
 —Royal Gazette, Nov. 2, 1841.

"Liorama" is thus defined in Webster's Dictionary: "A mode of scenic representation, invented by Daguerr and Bouton, in which a painting (partly translucent) is seen from a distance through an opening. By a combination of translucent and opaque painting, and of transmitted and reflected light, and by contrivances such as screens and shutters, much diversity of scenic effect is produced." It was thus the forerunner of our modern lantern slides and motion pictures.

A man drove into a filling station to have a tire repaired. After he had driven away and gone a short piece down the road, he heard a noise and pulled to the shoulder to investigate. He found that the station attendant had failed to replace the lug and that the wheel was about to come off. On one side of the road was a tall wire fence which enclosed an insane asylum. On the other side was vacant land and no sign of habitation. As the motorist contemplated his predicament, an inmate called through the asylum fence, "Why don't you take your lug from out of the other 'wheel' and be on your way?" The motorist first looked surprised, then believed; then a little chagrined. "Don't feel bad about it," said the fellow across the fence. "I'm in here because I'm crazy, not stupid!" —Atlanta Constitution.

Word that Igor Gouzenko is working on his second novel is another reminder that this man who exposed the Soviet spy ring in Canada in 1945 has no intention to remain a virtual "ward of the State." He has not only experienced an almost irresistible tendency for the lids to droop and close. "Now do we sleep because there are sleep centres in the brain which are stimulated by the waste products of our normal daily activities? On the whole the evidence is against it," said Sir Geoffrey. Healthy exercise was conducive to sleep but over-fatigue was alien to it. Scientists now believed that there were sleep centres in the brain stem and base of the brain and that these stimulated the millions of nerve cells in the brain, the arousal centres themselves having been tuned up by the arrival of messages from eyes, ears and other senses. It was probable that those arousal centres fired and then, when the brain was no longer alert, blessed sleep stole over it. "That sleep," said Professor Jefferson, "that Shakespeare called 'Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course, chief nourisher in life's feast'."

The Passing Scene  
 By Observer  
 NEWFOUNDLAND PLAN

As is well known, Canada's newest Province at the present time is in a stage of great industrial expansion and of strengthening through scientific methods of the fishing industry which has been its mainstay for three centuries. It is pleasing to note that, while all this is going on, education is being given very vigorous attention. And this, not only for its usual cultural benefits, but as an aid to scientific conduct in the fisheries and other industries.

Fittingly enough, the fresh emphasis on the place of education in a free society, regardless of the nature of its economy, is being sponsored and carried forward by the Memorial University at St. John's. This institution received its charter shortly after the island became a Province of Canada. For twenty-five years or so before that it had been known as Memorial College with a program similar to that of Prince of Wales.

Thus far arts, science, and education are the departments in which degrees are granted; other departments such as law, medicine, engineering and dentistry, will have to await further developments in these departments in these studies can be completed.

Dr. Raymond Gushue, the President of Memorial, is a native of Newfoundland, an accomplished scholar, a well known lawyer, and a man of wide interests. He is well qualified to direct the work of the university in the direction of Newfoundland's industrial and fisheries expansion, for he knows a good deal of the many sided factors which are involved. Encouragement is being given to the university's faculty—which includes eminent educators and research scientists from many countries to engage in research in connection with the island's natural resources. Already, six reports and several more are under way. One extremely important, though it may not seem so at first glance, has to do with wood bark in which there is much wastage through various mill operations. The scientists are trying to see if it can be used, economically, in some way. Another is centered on the effect of drying conditions on fish muscle. In itself a small matter, surely, but in the whole picture of the fishing business, worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually, it has importance. Other scientific teams, specialists in social sciences, are working on research into the island's history.

Dr. Gushue's main concern, however, is to use the university's facilities to broaden scientific knowledge of every angle of the country's fisheries. "Newfoundland," said Dr. Gushue recently, "is situated in the centre of the greatest fishing banks in the world. Fishing plays a larger part in its economy than in most other countries. The Fisheries Research Board of Canada has a research station in St. John's. We propose to integrate the resources of this station with that of the university in providing the course. Through such a course we can make a contribution to fishery knowledge in the North American area which I think cannot be duplicated elsewhere."

Another field in which the university hopes to be of service is that of extension courses. This was decided upon after a report had been submitted by Dr. Raymond Miller of the Harvard University Graduate School who had made an exhaustive study of the possibilities. Dr. Miller's recommendations were in a report which he called a "Newfoundland Plan". Briefly, the Plan calls for co-operation between the university and the Newfoundland Federation of Fishermen and the establishment of agricultural sub-committees in each of the counties in which courses will be carried into every corner of the Province and will include instruction in fish problems, home economics, youth work, community planning, mechanics, agriculture, credit, and almost everything else in the calendar of useful subjects.

The Youth Program is to be given special attention. "You can use your youth," wrote Dr. Miller in his report, "to build the new Newfoundland. With proper leadership this department will probably outstrip all the others in value and recognition."

Certainly, Dr. Gushue and his colleagues have established an ambitious and comprehensive program. They will have the good wishes of all who are interested in seeing the development of industry and the extension of education go hand in hand.

PICK TOP CHEESE-MAKER  
 BELLEVILLE, Ont. (CP)—T. S. Aicken of Belton, Ont., was named grand champion cheese-maker at the British Empire dairy show Tuesday. The reserve championship went to H. D. Montgomery of Monkland, Ont., for the second highest scoring cheese.  
 UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—The Western big threat and India were reported bogged down Tuesday in their attempt to agree on a joint course of action in the Korean deadlock.

**P.E.I. HEREFORD BREEDERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING**  
 FRIDAY, DEC. 3—2:30 P. M.  
 Farmers Hall  
 —On—  
 Richmond Street  
 Full attendance required

**1855 CHARLOTTETOWN CENTENNIAL 1955**  
 AN INVITATION TO OUR CITIZENS TO LIGHT UP FOR CENTENNIAL YEAR  
 With January 1st set for the Official Opening of Charlottetown's Centennial Celebration all merchants and citizens are urged to co-operate in the lighting up of our City through special planned street lighting in the business area and by extra special Christmas lighting of their homes, all of which we urge you to leave up throughout 1955.  
 Up-town merchants will be contacted regarding participation in decorative street lighting being planned by our local Electrical Contractors.  
 It is hoped that many of our private citizens will make an extra effort to light up their homes for the Holiday Season and the ensuing Centennial Year.  
 Arrangements have been made for special lighting of City Hall and many of our Churches and other Public Buildings.  
 As Christmas is only about three weeks away it is respectfully suggested that the time to light up is now before the Christmas rush is upon us.  
 For suggestions, costs, etc., contact your local Electrical Contractor.  
 Your support and co-operation in providing for the Festive lighting of our City for its 100th Anniversary will be greatly appreciated.  
 Charlottetown Centennial Committee.